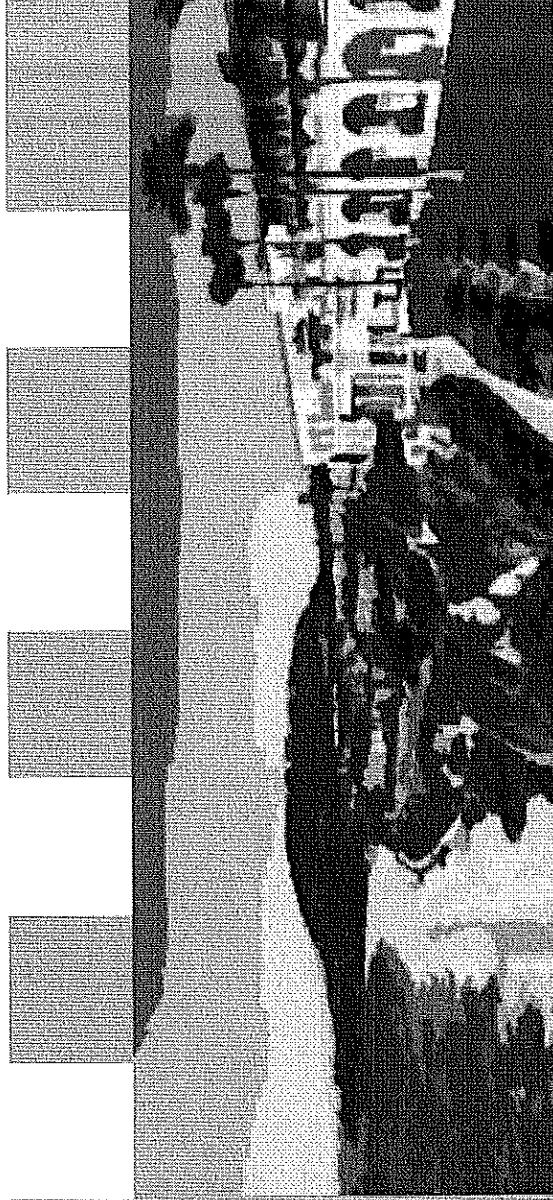


Save the Date



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November 19-22, 2016

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**State Government Affairs Council
(SGAC) Foundation**

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Session ends @ 11:00 AM
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10 Sessions
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Over 90 Legislator
Attendees
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Attendees

2015

**77 TOTAL LEGISLATORS
WITH 52 LEADERS:**

5 Speakers,
4 Senate Presidents,
22 Majority Leaders,
12 Minority Leaders,
2 Speakers Pro Tempore,
6 Senate Presidents Pro Tempore.

Representing 33 states, Puerto Rico,
and the Virgin Islands.

2014

**89 TOTAL LEGISLATORS
WITH 46 LEADERS:**

6 Speakers,
5 Senate Presidents,
17 Majority Leaders,
12 Minority Leaders,
3 Speakers Pro Tempore,
3 Senate Presidents Pro Tempore.

Representing 37 states, Puerto Rico,
and the Virgin Islands.

2013

**76 TOTAL LEGISLATORS
WITH 55 LEADERS:**

9 Speakers,
4 Senate Presidents,
17 Majority Leaders,
14 Minority Leaders,
3 Speakers Pro Tempore,
3 Senate Presidents Pro Tempore.

Representing 34 states, Guam,
Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Island

SGAC is a non-partisan, non-lobbying organization that fosters relationships between the public and private sectors. It works cooperatively with state legislators and policy organizations and is dedicated to the integrity and betterment of the public policy process. Through its members, SGAC enhances policy makers' knowledge of various perspectives and is dedicated to promoting the most effective and efficient government possible.

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From: Bethany Rhodes
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 11:39 AM
To: Schafer, Abby
Subject: FW: Story on Pension System Return Assumptions
Attachments: 10-13-16 ALEC Study -Unaccountable-and-Unaffordable.pdf;
Discount Rate Issue Brief October 2016.pdf

Bethany Rhodes

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From: Bethany Rhodes
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 11:38 AM
To: statesenator29@gmail.com; Zielinski, Justin
Subject: FW: Story on Pension System Return Assumptions

Would you be interested in fielding this one? If you like, we can give him numbers and such, but I have a policy that we are staff and MEMBERS get quoted... Let me know your thoughts, please.

In the event you WOULD like to handle this, the issue brief we did 2 weeks ago covers this issue (see attached). Also, I've attached the ALEC "study."

Bethany Rhodes

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From: Burns, Adrian [<mailto:aburns@nncogannett.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 11:02 AM
To: Bethany Rhodes
Subject: Story on Pension System Return Assumptions

Ms. Rhodes, I'm working on a story today looking at a recent American Legislative Exchange Council report that pushes for a much lower expected return rate for pensions. Their "risk-free" rate would obviously push unfunded liability figures up to very high levels for the pension systems, and is indeed the basis of their alarming report.

Do you have a bit of time today or tomorrow to chat about this issue? I have been covering the pension systems for quite a while (with Columbus Business first for several years, then away from the news business for a while now back at it).

Thanks!

Adrian Burns
Enterprise Reporter

Phone (office & cell): 740-973-4499

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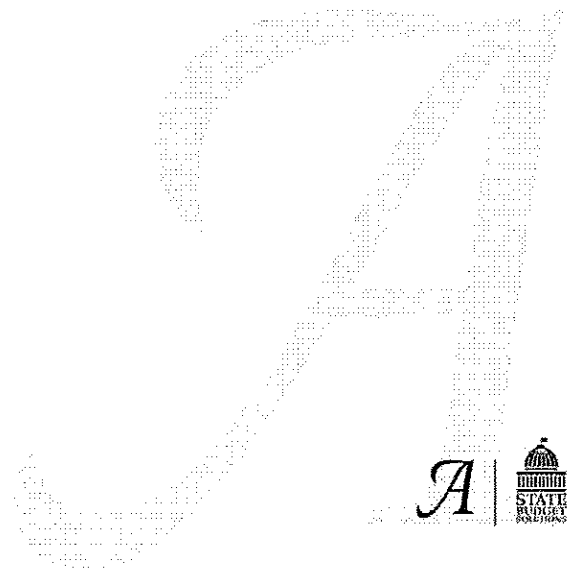


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October | 2016

Unaccountable and Unaffordable 2016

Unfunded Public Pension Liabilities Near \$5.6 Trillion



Unaccountable and Unaffordable 2016

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About the American Legislative Exchange Council

The Unaccountable and Unaffordable 2016 report was published by the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) as part of its mission to discuss, develop and disseminate model public policies that expand free markets, promote economic growth, limit the size of government and preserve individual liberty. ALEC is the nation's largest non-partisan, voluntary membership organization of state legislators, with more than 2,000 members across the nation. ALEC is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of state legislators. ALEC is classified by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, public policy and educational organization. Individuals, philanthropic foundations, businesses and associations are eligible to support the work of ALEC through tax-deductible gifts.

About the ALEC Center for State Fiscal Reform

The ALEC Center for State Fiscal Reform strives to educate policymakers, the press and the general public on the principles of sound fiscal policy and the evidence that supports those principles. This is done by personalized research, policy briefings in the states and by releasing nonpartisan policy publications for distribution, such as *Rich States, Poor States: ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitiveness Index*. State Budget Solutions is a project of the ALEC Center for State Fiscal Reform.

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Acknowledgements and Disclaimers

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Unfunded Public Pension Liabilities Near \$5.6 Trillion

State public pension plans are now underfunded by nearly \$5.6 trillion – an increase of almost \$900 billion from State Budget Solutions’ (SBS) last comprehensive report in 2014.¹ When state pension funds are examined through the lens of a more realistic valuation, pension funding gaps are revealed to be much larger than reported in official state financial documents. This report totals state-administered plans’ assets and liabilities and finds nationwide total unfunded liabilities to be \$5.59 trillion. The nationwide funding level is a mere 35 percent, which is one percentage point lower than two years ago.² Combined across all states, the price tag for unfunded pension liabilities is now \$17,427 for every man, woman and child in the United States.

The only way to solve this growing problem is for states to enact meaningful pension reform. While some might feel that America’s public pension crisis only threatens current workers and retirees, it is in fact a problem that affects everyone. Taxpayers are on the hook for the legal obligation to cover the promised benefits of traditional, defined-benefit pension plans. Additionally, every dollar that is spent filling the gap in public pensions is a dollar taken away from core government services. This forces legislators to make the difficult decision of leaving their citizens with fewer services or enacting economically damaging tax increases.

A Nationwide Pension Problem

This report considers three important metrics to gauge the severity of the pension problem across the 50 states: unfunded pension liability per capita, the funded ratio and total unfunded pension liability. Unfunded pension liability per capita reveals the personal share of liability for every resident in each state. The funded ratio represents how well a given state’s pension plans are funding their pension promises. Finally, the total unfunded pension liability reveals the fiscal strain on state budgets in raw dollar terms.

Unfunded pension liabilities per capita, which are given by state in the Appendix, are arguably the most alarming facet of pension funding. Since public pensions are the responsibility of all taxpayers, it is only fair to consider this metric when evaluating the states’ relative pension health. When unfunded pension liabilities are viewed as shared debt placed on each individual, Alaska, where each resident is on the hook for a staggering \$42,950, tops the list. Ohio and Illinois follow for the highest per person unfunded pension liabilities.

Another useful gauge of financial health is the funded ratio, or the total value of a plan’s assets weighed against its accrued liabilities. This calculation is important since total unfunded liabilities alone do not tell the entire story of a state’s pension problems. California has the nation’s largest unfunded liability in absolute dollar terms, but its funded ratio of 35.6 percent is the 21st best. Connecticut has the nation’s worst funded ratio at 22.8 percent, meaning no state is failing to keep its promise to taxpayers and pensioners as badly as Connecticut. The state’s failure to address its pension liabilities is a significant contributor to Connecticut’s ongoing budget problems. While Wisconsin has the best funded ratio in the country, the state’s defined-benefit pension fund is only 63.4 percent funded when more prudent accounting assumptions are applied. Even in the best-case scenario, all states have significant funding gaps. The Appendix shows the funded ratios for every state.

While the most accurate indicators of state pension health relate to unfunded liabilities per capita and funded ratios, total unfunded pension liabilities show just how big a burden each state has accrued. The most populous states with the largest government workforces will also tend to have the largest unfunded liabilities, such as California (more than \$956 billion). Smaller states, such as Vermont and North Dakota, which employ fewer workers, face smaller burdens. The Appendix shows the states with the largest and smallest total unfunded pension liabilities.

Real Pension Liabilities are Obscured by Poor Accounting Methods

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) sets accounting rules for states and municipalities. In 2012, GASB made two significant changes to how the financial health of pensions is measured. These changes were made, in part, as a reaction to the massive hit pension plans took during and after the “Great Recession” of 2008, and were implemented as a way to increase transparency, consistency and comparability of pension information. Although these GASB reforms are a step in the right direction, states often employ accounting “tricks,” which paint a rosier picture than is actually the case.

One accounting trick is the use of high discount rates, the assumed rate of future investment returns on fund assets, when calculating pension liabilities. This report analyzed more than 280 state-administered pension plans, and found the simple, unweighted average discount rate to be 7.37 percent. While state funding is significant, on average, more than 70 percent of the total costs of pension benefits are paid for by the plan’s investment earnings.³

According to public finance scholars Robert Novy-Marx and Joshua D. Rauh, “the states use discount rates that are unreasonably high.”⁴ As former Social Security Administration deputy commissioner Andrew Biggs and economist Kent Smetters have explained, “No matter how well a pension plan manages its investments, it cannot generate 8 percent returns with certainty.”⁵ Faced with unrealistically high expectations, state pension fund managers often embrace overly aggressive investment strategies, exposing taxpayers to additional risk.

In addition to expecting unrealistic investment returns, many state governments fail to make their annually required contributions (ARC). Pew Charitable Trusts, a nonpartisan think tank, defines the ARC as “the minimum standard set by government accounting rules.”⁶ Unfortunately, several states have reduced their annual contributions, failing to make full ARC payments, or they have skipped payments altogether. According to a Pew Charitable Trusts report, only 21 states fully made their annual required contributions in 2013.⁷

Methodology: The State Budget Solutions Difference

This report includes data from more than 280 state-administered public pension plans, holding more than \$3 trillion in assets. Figures were drawn from Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFRs) and actuarial valuations.* In each case, figures were from the most up-to-date valuation available at the time of research.

* This report uses the actuarial value of assets (AVA) and actuarial accrued liability (AAL) for each plan to calculate unfunded liabilities. However, a few plans provide only fair market valuations. In these cases, the fair market value of assets and liabilities was used. Fair market values generally do not vary dramatically from actuarial values. Therefore, the use of fair market values in these cases has very little effect on a state’s unfunded liabilities and rankings.

Unlike the GASB-influenced CAFRs and actuarial valuations, State Budget Solutions uses a more reasonable valuation to determine the unfunded liabilities of public pension plans. Given that many plans' assumed rates of return are too high and invite risk, State Budget Solutions uses a more prudent rate of return, rather than the loftiest goals of money managers.⁸ This study uses a rate of return based on the equivalent of a hypothetical 15-year U.S. Treasury bond yield.⁹ Since this is not presently offered as an investment instrument, the number is derived from an average of the 10 and 20 year bond yields. This year's number is averaged from March 2015 to March 2016.¹⁰ The resulting rate is 2.344 percent, which is considered a "risk-free" rate. As the Society of Actuaries' Blue Ribbon Panel recommends, "the rate of return assumption should be based primarily on the current risk-free rate plus explicit risk premia or on other similar forward-looking techniques."¹¹

The reason for using the U.S. Treasury bond yields is to show how a more realistic valuation differs from overly optimistic assumptions regarding unfunded liabilities. Using a more reasonable valuation does not allow state officials to simply hope for the best and shortchange their pension funds. The public sector's current assumed rates of return distort how much money is needed to fund the plans today to guarantee and eventually pay out pension benefits in the future. Ultimately, this will result in broken promises to government employees and financial hardship for taxpayers.

The formula for calculating a more realistic present value for a liability requires first finding the future value of the liability. That formula, in which "i" represents a plan's assumed interest rate, is $FV = AAL \times (1+i)^{15}$. The second step is to discount the future value to arrive at the present value of the more reasonably valued liability. That formula is $PV = FV / (1+i)^{15}$, in which "i" represents the risk-free interest rate.

Conclusion: State Pension Plans Face Growing Challenges

As this report reveals, all 50 states face alarming pension problems. State Budget Solutions is not alone in calling attention to the flawed accounting practices of state agencies. A recent study released by the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, *Pension Debt: United States Public Employee Pension Systems*, also suggests that states use unrealistically high rates of return to discount their pension liabilities. The study found that pension debt totals \$4.8 trillion, a finding similar to this report.¹²

Given that pension payments to retired state employees are guaranteed, taxpayers are ultimately responsible for making up any funding deficit. Accordingly, assumed return rates should be realistic, to ensure taxpayers are not left holding the bag for an underfunded pension system. Assumed rates of return should be thoughtfully determined based on the type of liabilities – in this case, state employees' defined retirement benefits. These guaranteed promises should be matched with guaranteed rates of return.

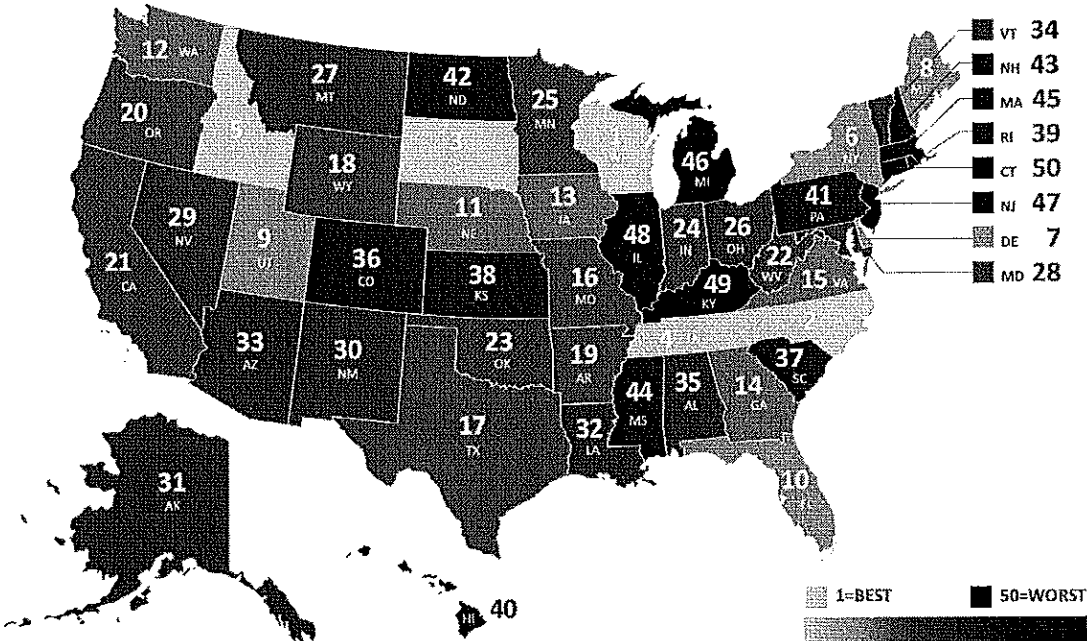
Prudent valuation provides the best insight into the real unfunded liabilities states face. It is important for states to adopt this model because in order to keep their promises, states must first understand their true liabilities. By failing to measure liabilities accurately, any attempt at a solution will be hindered.

If states are to keep their pension promises while protecting taxpayers, reform is vital. As former Utah Senator Dan Liljenquist, author of the American Legislative Exchange Council study, *Keeping the Promise: State Solutions for Government Pension Reform*, has rightly noted, pension reform is a not a partisan issue, but a math problem.¹³ Without real solutions in place, the financial security of retirees, workers and taxpayers alike will remain at risk.

Endnotes

- ¹ Esposito-Luppino, Joe. "Promises Made, Promises Broken 2014: Unfunded Liabilities Hit \$4.7 Trillion." State Budget Solutions. November 12, 2014. <http://www.statebudgetsolutions.org/publications/detail/promises-made-promises-broken-2014-unfunded-liabilities-hit-47-trillion>
- ² State Budget Solutions' 2014 report stated the national average funding status for all plans was 36 percent.
- ³ Mixon, Peter. "Estimating future costs at public pension plans: Setting the discount rate." *Pension & Investments*. April 29, 2015. <http://www.pionline.com/article/20150429/ONLINE/150429853/estimating-future-costs-at-public-pension-plans-setting-the-discount-rate>
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- ⁵ Biggs, Andrew and Smetters, Kent. "Understanding the argument for market valuation of public pension liabilities." American Enterprise Institute. May 29, 2013. <http://www.aei.org/publication/understanding-the-argument-for-market-valuation-of-public-pension-liabilities/>
- ⁶ The PEW Charitable Trusts. "The State Pensions Funding Gap: Challenges Persist." July 14, 2015. http://www.pewtrusts.org/~media/assets/2015/07/pewstates_statepensiondebttbrief_final.pdf?la=en
- ⁷ *Ibid.*
- ⁸ Biggs, Andrew and Smetters, Kent. "Understanding the argument for market valuation of public pension liabilities." American Enterprise Institute. May 29, 2013. <http://www.aei.org/publication/understanding-the-argument-for-market-valuation-of-public-pension-liabilities/>
- ⁹ Norcross, Eileen. "Getting an Accurate Picture of State Pension Liabilities." The Mercatus Center at George Mason University. December 13, 2010. <http://mercatus.org/sites/default/files/Getting-an-Accurate-Picture-of-State-Pension-Liabilities.Norcross.12.13.10.pdf>
- ¹⁰ "Resource Center, Daily Treasury Yield Curve Rates." U.S. Department of the Treasury. Accessed March 7, 2016. <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/data-chart-center/interest-rates/Pages/TextView.aspx?data=yieldYear&year=2016>
- ¹¹ "Report of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Public Pension Plan Funding." Society of Actuaries. 2014. <https://www.soa.org/blueribbonpanel/>
- ¹² Nation, Joe. "US Pension Tracker." Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research. 2016. http://us.pensiontracker.org/about_pension_tracker.php
- ¹³ Liljenquist, Dan. *Keeping the Promise: State Solutions for Government Pension Reform*. American Legislative Exchange Council. 2013. <https://www.alec.org/publication/keeping-the-promise-state-solutions-for-government-pension-reform/>

2016 FUNDED RATIO OF PUBLIC PENSION PLANS



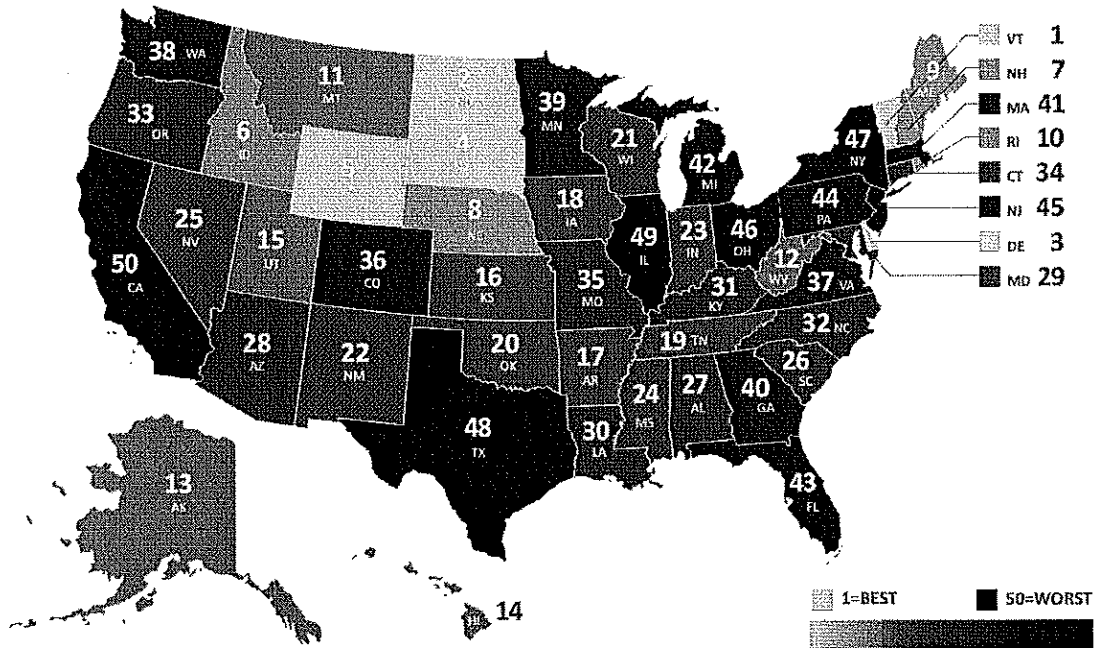
RANK	STATE	FUNDED RATIO
1	Wisconsin	63.4%
2	North Carolina	47.9%
3	South Dakota	47.8%
4	Tennessee	47.3%
5	Idaho	46.5%
6	New York	44.9%
7	Delaware	44.7%
8	Maine	42.1%
9	Utah	41.7%
10	Florida	40.5%
11	Nebraska	40.3%
12	Washington	39.9%
13	Iowa	39.8%
14	Georgia	38.8%
15	Virginia	37.4%
16	Missouri	36.9%
17	Texas	36.9%
18	Wyoming	36.6%
19	Arkansas	36.4%
20	Oregon	36.3%
21	California	35.6%
22	West Virginia	35.5%
23	Oklahoma	34.9%
24	Indiana	34.8%
25	Minnesota	34.5%

RANK	STATE	FUNDED RATIO
26	Ohio	34.3%
27	Montana	33.6%
28	Maryland	33.1%
29	Nevada	32.7%
30	New Mexico	32.1%
31	Alaska	31.4%
32	Louisiana	31.3%
33	Arizona	31.2%
34	Vermont	30.4%
35	Alabama	30.3%
36	Colorado	30.3%
37	South Carolina	30.1%
38	Kansas	29.9%
39	Rhode Island	29.6%
40	Hawaii	29.2%
41	Pennsylvania	28.9%
42	North Dakota	28.9%
43	New Hampshire	28.0%
44	Mississippi	27.9%
45	Massachusetts	27.7%
46	Michigan	27.5%
47	New Jersey	26.9%
48	Illinois	23.8%
49	Kentucky	23.4%
50	Connecticut	22.8%

Data is based on State Budget Solutions' calculations. To read the full report and methodology, see ALEC.org/PensionDebt2016.



2016 TOTAL UNFUNDED LIABILITIES OF PUBLIC PENSION PLANS



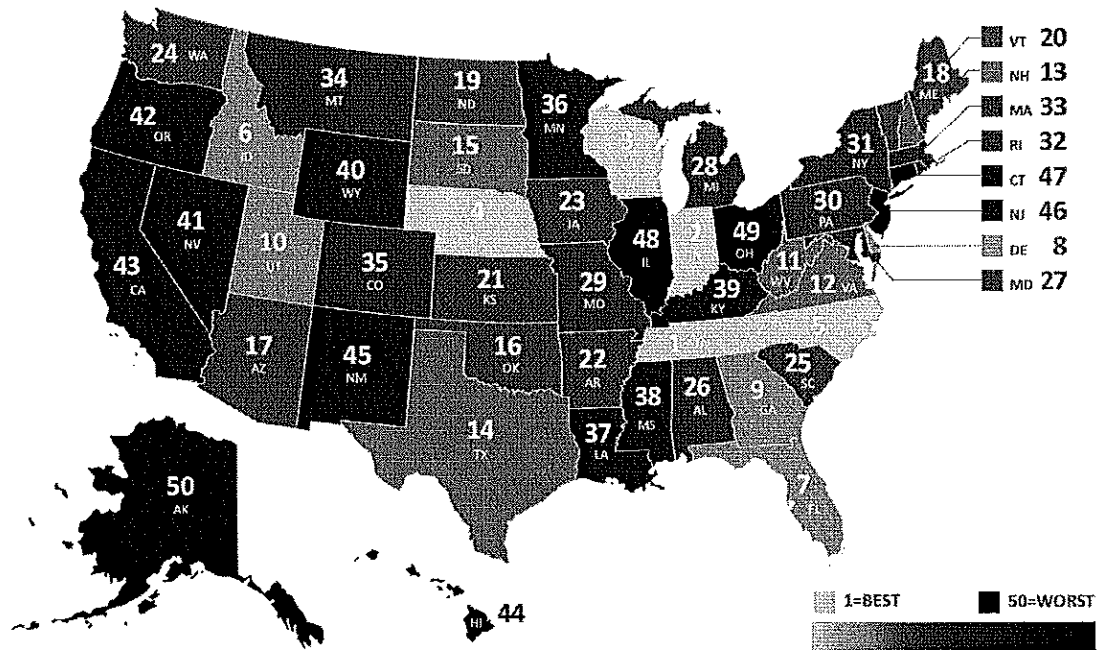
RANK	STATE	UNFUNDED LIABILITIES
1	Vermont	\$8,707,979,583
2	North Dakota	\$10,213,597,800
3	Delaware	\$11,262,866,330
4	South Dakota	\$11,286,522,172
5	Wyoming	\$13,642,969,825
6	Idaho	\$16,572,789,476
7	New Hampshire	\$17,320,649,176
8	Nebraska	\$17,367,830,965
9	Maine	\$17,676,038,583
10	Rhode Island	\$18,636,960,291
11	Montana	\$19,496,700,717
12	West Virginia	\$23,640,020,456
13	Alaska	\$31,715,653,280
14	Hawaii	\$35,136,593,006
15	Utah	\$37,987,328,775
16	Kansas	\$40,737,986,356
17	Arkansas	\$43,976,220,971
18	Iowa	\$46,424,775,242
19	Tennessee	\$47,826,122,962
20	Oklahoma	\$51,903,613,095
21	Wisconsin	\$52,842,437,646
22	New Mexico	\$54,455,339,568
23	Indiana	\$56,748,217,042
24	Mississippi	\$64,300,123,348
25	Nevada	\$69,697,815,811

RANK	STATE	UNFUNDED LIABILITIES
26	South Carolina	\$74,095,092,870
27	Alabama	\$74,957,966,779
28	Arizona	\$90,710,340,087
29	Maryland	\$93,343,409,896
30	Louisiana	\$94,320,807,435
31	Kentucky	\$95,946,947,928
32	North Carolina	\$96,402,637,555
33	Oregon	\$97,781,712,858
34	Connecticut	\$99,299,024,840
35	Missouri	\$99,369,429,995
36	Colorado	\$106,382,900,927
37	Virginia	\$107,648,590,922
38	Washington	\$107,740,838,715
39	Minnesota	\$110,474,025,601
40	Georgia	\$122,645,214,077
41	Massachusetts	\$126,677,266,263
42	Michigan	\$156,941,092,013
43	Florida	\$210,153,896,482
44	Pennsylvania	\$211,586,194,586
45	New Jersey	\$235,489,469,324
46	Ohio	\$331,420,701,160
47	New York	\$347,542,971,698
48	Texas	\$360,396,676,526
49	Illinois	\$362,646,966,724
50	California	\$956,081,787,553

Data is based on State Budget Solutions' calculations. To read the full report and methodology, see ALEC.org/PensionDebt2016.



2016 UNFUNDED LIABILITIES PER CAPITA OF PUBLIC PENSION PLANS



RANK	STATE	UNFUNDED LIABILITIES PER CAPITA
1	Tennessee	\$7,246
2	Indiana	\$8,573
3	Wisconsin	\$9,156
4	Nebraska	\$9,159
5	North Carolina	\$9,599
6	Idaho	\$10,014
7	Florida	\$10,367
8	Delaware	\$11,907
9	Georgia	\$12,007
10	Utah	\$12,680
11	West Virginia	\$12,819
12	Virginia	\$12,841
13	New Hampshire	\$13,017
14	Texas	\$13,120
15	South Dakota	\$13,147
16	Oklahoma	\$13,270
17	Arizona	\$13,285
18	Maine	\$13,297
19	North Dakota	\$13,494
20	Vermont	\$13,910
21	Kansas	\$13,991
22	Arkansas	\$14,766
23	Iowa	\$14,861
24	Washington	\$15,026
25	South Carolina	\$15,133

RANK	STATE	UNFUNDED LIABILITIES PER CAPITA
26	Alabama	\$15,427
27	Maryland	\$15,541
28	Michigan	\$15,817
29	Missouri	\$16,334
30	Pennsylvania	\$16,527
31	New York	\$17,556
32	Rhode Island	\$17,644
33	Massachusetts	\$18,644
34	Montana	\$18,875
35	Colorado	\$19,496
36	Minnesota	\$20,124
37	Louisiana	\$20,194
38	Mississippi	\$21,488
39	Kentucky	\$21,682
40	Wyoming	\$23,277
41	Nevada	\$24,110
42	Oregon	\$24,270
43	California	\$24,424
44	Hawaii	\$24,544
45	New Mexico	\$26,116
46	New Jersey	\$26,288
47	Connecticut	\$27,653
48	Illinois	\$28,200
49	Ohio	\$28,538
50	Alaska	\$42,950

Data is based on State Budget Solutions' calculations. To read the full report and methodology, see ALEC.org/PensionDebt2016.

Ohio Retirement Study Council

ISSUE BRIEF

Issue 1, October 2016

Measuring Pension Liabilities

Recent studies¹ and newspaper articles² have reported different liability figures for Ohio's pension funds than those reported in the funds' CAFRs or by ORSC staff. Why is there a difference?

Discount Rate

When reporting unfunded future benefit liabilities, pension funds measure those liabilities using a "discount rate" that is based on assumed investment returns of fund assets. The idea is that the present value of those future benefit obligations is less in today's dollars due to anticipated investment returns that will be made prior to those obligations coming due. The variance in reported liability amounts happens because of differences and disagreements on the appropriate discount rate.

For example, say I have an obligation due in one year for \$1.08. Assuming I can earn 8% in one year, the amount I need saved today to pay that expense in one year is \$1.00. My discount rate is 8%. But if my discount rate were only 2%, I would need almost \$1.06 today to pay the same obligation in one year. The higher your discount rate the less money (less liability) you need in the present to pay for some future obligation. The lower your discount rate, the more money you need in the present to pay for the same obligation. When we consider the power of compound interest, even small variations in a discount rate can generate very different liability figures. The chart below demonstrates the various liabilities today for a payment in 15 years modified by discount rates.

Liability Today	Discount Rate	Payment in 15 Years
\$555	4%	\$1000
\$481	5%	
\$417	6%	
\$362	7%	
\$315	8%	

This is where pension liability amounts diverge and why the amounts differ so dramatically. The Ohio systems have discount rates based on assumed rates of investment return ranging from 7.5%-8.25%. Based on these discount rates, the combined unfunded liabilities of the systems is roughly \$56 billion as of the most recent reporting period (2015). But, there are some that believe the systems should use a "no risk" discount rate pegged in some way to treasury securities. If you were to take the cur-

rent 30-year treasury rate of roughly 2.5% and require the systems to use it as a discount rate, the systems would have much greater liabilities. Using this type of analysis would, according to a recent Mercatus Center study, result in unfunded liabilities of \$262 billion for 2016.³

Mathematically, both can be accurate. ORSC staff uses the assumed rate of return discount rate as this rate provides more pertinent information related to the cost of the benefit and the plan for funding those benefits. The following sections discuss why this is the case.

The Argument for Assumed Rate of Return: What will this actually cost me?

The *assumed rate of return* method discounts future liabilities based on expected investment returns. As mentioned earlier, for Ohio this ranges from 7.5%-8.25% which results in a substantial reduction in

"The assumed rate of return method discounts future liabilities based on expected investment returns."

liabilities. However, if appropriately set, the assumed rate of return model seeks to reflect the closest *actual cost* in today's dollars of future pension benefits. The vast majority of liabilities are paid through investment income (up to 70%) rather than contributions from employers and employees. Therefore, it is highly likely that investment returns will constitute the majority of assets used to pay future benefit obligations. To not appropriately include this actual reduction in the cost of future benefits would be asking for more funds from today's employees and employers than are actually needed to pay that benefit.

The key in the above paragraph is "if appropriately set." An unrealistic assumed rate of return would artificially and temporarily reduce the cost of future benefits and would require increased contributions, or decreased benefits, in the future, and it would not have properly answered the question of "What will this cost me?" One way to mediate this problem is by frequently reviewing economic forecasts and past returns to create an appropriate rate. Ohio's systems do this through a statutory requirement to review all assumptions, including investment return assumptions, on a 5-year basis.⁴ Additionally, each retirement system conducts an independent actuarial valuation attesting to the funding status of the system annually, as required by law.

The Argument for "No-risk" Rates: What is the market value of this benefit?

The *market value of liabilities* (MVL) approach uses rates that are much closer to risk free securities. This approach is not interested in the funding of benefits but is instead concerned with a theoretical market price of the plan's obligations which is itself a function of the riskiness of non-payment. Conceptually, this is a more difficult method to express than the assumed rate of return method but is grounded in finance and economics.

"The market value of liabilities (MVL) approach uses rates that are much closer to risk free securities."

Pension benefits aren't traded on the open market, so how do we give them a market price? A fundamental aspect of finance is that the value of future cash flows must be valued at the riskiness of the payments. The premise of the MVL approach is that pension benefits are "bond-like" in that they are promises to make specific payments at a future date. Because benefits are almost sure to be paid, whatever the open market pays for a risk free security, such as treasury bonds, should be used in valuing the present day value of the benefit. That is, the discount rate should match the current rates for risk free securities on the open market.⁵

According to MVL proponents, liabilities of a plan are *completely independent of asset allocation and market returns*. The MVL approach is less concerned with *funding* but instead is focused on the market value of benefits *today* irrespective of theoretical market returns. Valuing a plan's liabilities based on hypothetical future investment returns is completely illogical from the MVL point of view—taking investment risk does not raise or lower today's liabilities.⁶ To MVL proponents, pension funds are mispricing their benefits to outside parties; the market would price pension benefits much differently than those benefits are reported by pension funds. The asymmetrical pricing between what the market would price pension benefits and how pension funds price them is illogical from a finance point of view.

The MVL method could, therefore, be used by a potential creditor of the fund to gain a market-consistent measurement of obligations.

Some MVL proponents admit that, though grounded in rules of modern finance and economics, this method is a more theoretical valuing of liability based on "what ifs."⁷ "What if" the pension fund terminated? What is the settlement value on termination? "What if" all participants went to the market and asked it to replicate their accrued pension benefits by purchasing fixed-income securities that would provide the same stream of income? Nevertheless, they suggest that they are pricing the liabilities as they would price *any other liability* that was on the open market.

Very Different Questions

The spirited debate between these positions was so great that the United States Government Accountability Office stepped in to issue their own report based on various expert opinions.⁸ That report didn't endorse either position but simply noted that each method was addressing a different question. "What will this cost me today?" and "What is the market value of this future benefit?" are not the same question. One is a question of cost while the other might be considered an expression of lender risk.

If you want to know how much a benefit in the future will cost you today, the assumed rate of return will provide the best estimate and give you the best guidance on necessary steps to realize that cost estimate. On the other hand, if you want a measurement of liabilities that is consistent with market prices, the MVL is superior. A pension fund and its oversight body would be more interested in understanding required costs for budgeting purposes, while a potential lender to the pension fund sponsor would be more interested in the consistent market measurement of those liabilities.

While the MVL approach can provide supplementary information, such as evaluating potential risk (i.e., liabilities if the plans do not meet their assumed rate of return), estimating a market value of future cash flows is not at all the same as estimating the future costs of paying for them. A retirement plan isn't terminating. It's not settling its account on the open market. Pension benefits aren't a bank loan

and they aren't a bond. An outside creditor may find value in a discount rate that is consistent with other lending measurements, but those measurements have almost no importance to whomever is funding the plan. Pension plans invest funds to pay benefits; ignoring this is to ignore the entire point of a pension plan: *to provide a cost-effective means of delivering retirement benefits over and above what employees would receive in the market if they invested in no risk securities.*

Practical Consequences of Each Method

There are potential problems with each approach. Pension funds may appear far more well-funded using the assumed rate of return method, encouraging either contribution rate holidays or enhanced benefits. This actually happened in Ohio. Before the market downturn after September 11, 2001, Ohio's systems were close to being 100% funded. As a result, an increase in the COLA from CPI to a flat 3% was supported.⁹ But 100% does not mean the fund could pay all future benefits today. 100% means *100% funded in today's dollars, if all assumptions are met.* After the market downturn, the pension funds found themselves with a liability that was paid for in nonexistent future dollars. The "surplus" being used for a benefit expansion had never existed.

"100% means 100% funded in today's dollars, if all assumptions are met."

Another consequence of the assumed rate of return method is an almost perverse incentive to take on risk. This is the exact opposite approach you want when your goal is to guarantee an eventual benefit payment. A higher assumed rate of return reduces present day liabilities, and therefore, present day costs. This reduction in present day costs encouraged pension funds across the country in the 2000s to increase their assumed rate of returns and also the funding risk of not making those returns.¹⁰ But this risk is not shared equally across generations. Should the systems not make their return, they will effectively have shifted costs from the current generation to future generations. Even worse, if this increased risk results in some tail-end negative result (i.e., the 2008 financial crisis), it would partially defund the system of assets. The assumed rate of return can, therefore, encourage risk while at the same time masking that risk.

But the MVL approach likewise has problems. Primary among them is budgeting. The MVL is not focused on how you fund a plan and, therefore, provides no assistance in determining an accurate contribution to a plan. If the systems did in fact purchase a risk free security, such as a 30-year treasury bond, it would be logical to use some blended 30-year return on those bonds in determining the discount rate and necessary present day costs to employees and employers. But since the systems do not do so, using that rate to determine present day costs would not provide an accurate cost figure. Indeed, a modest change in treasury rates could dramatically alter the MVL method liability figure without any real relationship to the funding strategies of the pension funds. This would result in extreme year-by-year budgeting swings in contribution rates from employees and employers.

There is also a very practical problem for the MVL approach that is unique to Ohio. The MVL assumption, that the payments are virtually guaranteed, is simply incorrect in the case of Ohio's systems. The evidence for this claim is quite simple. In 2011, billions of dollars of liability for the systems disappeared through plan design changes in S.B. 340, 341, 342, 343, and 345. Until pension benefits are granted, they can change in Ohio. For Ohio, then, future liabilities are not "fixed." Were

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Ohio to use the MVL method, the market would have to determine a rate greater than a risk free rate. It would be difficult to find a comparable product on the open market. What is a comparable security that has guaranteed payments except that those payments will change as necessary?

ORSC Staff Perspective

Measurement of liabilities is an issue of fraught debate.¹¹ The Actuarial Standards Board has not indicated a preference for either method, instead noting that different parties may have different measurement purposes.¹²

ORSC staff's purpose is to provide practical, useful, and accurate information to the ORSC and general public. For these reasons, staff uses the assumed rate of return when reporting liability on our annual summary sheets and when providing information to outside parties. The ORSC staff perspective is that the assumed rate of return method provides the best estimation of eventual costs today that are necessary to fund a benefit in the future and, therefore, provides the best budgeting of necessary contributions. We believe this information, whether current contributions will cover plan liabilities over time, provides the best actionable information to determine if contribution rates or liabilities (plan benefits) need to be altered. We find this to be more useful information than a theoretical settlement value of the funds. This approach is consistent with other funds nationwide, as no funds use MVL for funding calculations and very few report liabilities using MVL.

This is not to say that the MVL approach does not provide value. As discussed above, the MVL can provide additional information, particularly regarding investment risks. A consistent and effective method of evaluating risk is currently lacking but would be beneficial. That said, it is important to note that the systems are pre-funded (unlike Social Security). As an added protection, the systems are required to submit a plan if they are unable to amortize unfunded liabilities over a 30-year period. Given the ORSC's objective, to ensure that contribution rates match plan obligations for those active members who will retire in the future, ORSC staff finds the assumed rate of return method to be more useful than the MVL approach.

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¹ Mercatus Center, George Mason University, "Ranking the States by Fiscal Condition, 2016 Edition" (June 2016), available online at http://mercatus.org/sites/default/files/Norcross-Fiscal-Rankings-2-v3_1.pdf

² <http://www.portclintonnewsheald.com/story/opinion/2016/08/23/column-opers-hedge-funds-grew-zero-billion-years/89209448/>

³ Mercatus Center, George Mason University, "Ranking the States by Fiscal Condition, 2016 Edition" (June 2016), available online at http://mercatus.org/sites/default/files/Norcross-Fiscal-Rankings-2-v3_1.pdf

⁴ R.C. 145.22, 742.14, 3307.51, 3309.21, and 5505.12.

⁵ A much more detailed finance perspective of the MVL approach is available through a draft paper coauthored by the American Association of Actuaries and Society of Actuaries. The Joint AAA/SOA Pension Finance Task Force, "Financial Economics Principles Applied to Public Pension Plans (Draft paper, 2016), 11. (Author's note: Joint Task

Force was disbanded in August 2016).

⁶ Donald J. Boyd and Peter J. Kiernan, "The Blinken Report: Strengthening the Security of Public Sector Defined Benefit Plans" (The Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government, 2014), 3. Available online at http://www.rockinst.org/pdf/government_finance/2014-01-Blinken_Report_One.pdf

⁷ Paul Angelo, "Understanding the Valuation of Public Pension Liabilities: Expected Cost vs Market Price (American Enterprise Institute, 2013). Available online at: https://www.aei.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/-understanding-the-valuation-of-public-pension-liabilities-expected-cost-versus-market-price_144422774379.pdf

⁸ GAO, Pension Plan Valuation: Views on Using Multiple Measures to Offer a More Complete Picture (September 2014). Available online at <http://www.gao.gov/assets/670/666287.pdf>

⁹ H.B. 157 of the 124th General Assembly.

¹⁰ GAO, "State and Local Government Pension Plans: Governance Practices and Long-term Investment Strategies Have Evolved Gradually as Plans Take On Increased Investment Risk" (August 24, 2010). Available online at <http://www.gao.gov/assets/310/308867.pdf>

¹¹ Burr, Barry, "Actuarial Leaders Disband Task Force, Object to Paper on Public Plan Liabilities" (Pension & Investments, August 3, 2016), available online at <http://www.pionline.com/article/20160803/ONLINE/160809964/actuarial-leaders-disband-task-force-object-to-paper-on-public-plan-liabilities>
National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems Code of Conduct. Available online at <http://www.ncpers.org/codeofconduct> (Author's Note: ORSC withdrew its membership from NCPERS subsequent to its advocacy related to a trip to Hawaii in 2013). The NCPERS list of organizations they deem as undermining public pensions and who they refuse to work with is a who's who of entities that support the MVL approach (available online at http://www.ncpers.org/files/Schedule%20A_2015-07.pdf).

¹² Actuarial Standards Board, "Actuarial Standards of Practice No. 27" (Revised 2013), 10. Available online at http://www.actuarialstandardsboard.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/asop027_172.pdf

The ASB is considering *including* a solvency liability (i.e., MVL) in its standards.

Jeffery A. Bernard
Senior Research Associate
614-228-5644
jbernard@orsc.org

From: Schafer, Abby
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 12:50 PM
To: Bethany Rhodes
Subject: RE: Story on Pension System Return Assumptions

Bethany,

I will pass this along to Representative Schuring.

Best,

Abby

Abby Schafer
Legislative Fellow
Office of Representative Kirk Schuring
Ohio House of Representatives, District 48
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215
614-752-2438

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Bethany Rhodes
Director and General Counsel
Ohio Retirement Study Council
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614-228-3574 Direct
614-228-0118 Fax
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Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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No, I'll take care of the number stuff and Beagle said he would call, so we should be all set! THANK YOU, ABBY!

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Subject: RE: Story on Pension System Return Assumptions

Bethany,

I will pass this along to Representative Schuring.

Best,

Abby

Abby Schafer
Legislative Fellow
Office of Representative Kirk Schuring
Ohio House of Representatives, District 48
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215
614-752-2438

From: Bethany Rhodes
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 11:39 AM
To: Schafer, Abby <Abby.Schafer@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: FW: Story on Pension System Return Assumptions

Bethany Rhodes
Director and General Counsel
Ohio Retirement Study Council
30 East Broad Street, 2nd Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-228-1346 Phone
614-228-3574 Direct
614-228-0118 Fax
Bethany.Rhodes@orsc.org
www.orsc.org

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you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify me immediately by telephone.

From: Bethany Rhodes
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 11:38 AM
To: statesenator29@gmail.com; Zielinski, Justin
Subject: FW: Story on Pension System Return Assumptions

Would you be interested in fielding this one? If you like, we can give him numbers and such, but I have a policy that we are staff and MEMBERS get quoted... Let me know your thoughts, please.

In the event you WOULD like to handle this, the issue brief we did 2 weeks ago covers this issue (see attached). Also, I've attached the ALEC "study."

Bethany Rhodes
Director and General Counsel
Ohio Retirement Study Council
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Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-228-1346 Phone
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From: Burns, Adrian [<mailto:aburns@nncogannett.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 11:02 AM
To: Bethany Rhodes
Subject: Story on Pension System Return Assumptions

Ms. Rhodes, I'm working on a story today looking at a recent American Legislative Exchange Council report that pushes for a much lower expected return rate for pensions. Their "risk-free" rate would obviously push unfunded liability figures up to very high levels for the pension systems, and is indeed the basis of their alarming report.

Do you have a bit of time today or tomorrow to chat about this issue? I have been covering the pension systems for quite a while (with Columbus Business first for several years, then away from the news business for a while now back at it).

Thanks!

Adrian Burns
Enterprise Reporter
Phone (office & cell): 740-973-4499
aburns@gannett.com
Follow me on Twitter: @burnsadrian



From: Yaple, Tyler
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 11:23 AM
To: Zielinski, Justin; Schafer, Abby
CC: Sarko, Alyssa
Subject: FW: ALEC Registration Confirmed - 2017 Spring Task Force Summit

Hey guys,

Just signed SOTH up for this. You can sign Schuring up using the link below. I signed SOTH up for Communications and Technology task force (I entered it for all 3 options). I am going to make SOTH's hotel reservation now too. Please let me know if you need any help getting the boss man signed up.

<https://www.alec.org/meeting/2017-spring-task-force-summit-charlotte-north-carolina/>

Tyler Yaple

Tyler Yaple
Special Assistant to Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger
Ohio House of Representatives
77 S. High St. Columbus, OH 43215
14th Floor
(614) 466-7959

From: Rep91
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 11:21 AM
To: Yaple, Tyler <Tyler.Yaple@ohiohouse.gov>; Sarko, Alyssa
<Alyssa.Sarko@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: FW: ALEC Registration Confirmed - 2017 Spring Task Force Summit

From: Mason Hunt [<mailto:mhunt@alec.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 11:20 AM
To: Rep91 <Rep91@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: ALEC Registration Confirmed - 2017 Spring Task Force Summit



Dear Cliff:

Your registration has been confirmed. Thank you for registering to attend the ALEC 2017 Spring Task Force Meeting. Please save this email for future reference.

Still need to make your hotel reservation? [Make your reservation now.](#)

Special events happening at our Spring Task Force Summit:

Center for Innovation and Technology Reception

Thursday, May 4 - 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

ALEC CARE Training for Legislative Members

Thursday, Friday and Saturday (See [agenda](#) for times)

Learn more about [ALEC CARE](#) - RSVP to [Ashley Varner](#)

Workshop: "Delivering the Tech Future: How Wired Networks Power an Unwired World"

Friday, May 5 - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Check our [meetings website](#) often for updates on agenda news!

Event: 2017 Spring Task Force Summit

Attending: Cliff Rosenberger

Number in Party: 1

Time: 8:00 AM

Date: Friday, May 5, 2017

Location: The Westin Charlotte

Address: 601 S College St, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202, USA

Confirmation Number: Z6NGMG7BGXH

Registration Type: Legislative Member

Current Registration:

Registration Information:**Registration Items**

Cliff
Rosenberger

Event Registration

Sessions

Cliff
Rosenberger

ALEC CARE Training

04-May-2017 1:00 PM

Cliff
Rosenberger

Center for Innovation and Technology Reception

04-May-2017 4:30 PM

Cliff
Rosenberger

Communications and Technology Subcommittee

05-May-2017 8:00 AM

Cliff
Rosenberger

ALEC CARE Training

05-May-2017 9:00 AM

Cliff
Rosenberger

Lunch - Communications and Technology

05-May-2017 12:30 PM

Please indicate any dietary restrictions you may have.
All beef well done, no seafood

Cliff
Rosenberger

Communications and Technology Task Force

05-May-2017 2:00 PM

Cliff
Rosenberger

North Carolina Welcome Reception

05-May-2017 5:00 PM

Cliff
Rosenberger

ALEC CARE Training

06-May-2017 9:00 AM

Additional Information

Cliff
Rosenberger

Is this your first time attending an ALEC event?

No

Would you like to receive SMS Push Notifications?

Yes

Please indicate the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Task Force you would like to serve on at the 2017 Spring Task Force Summit.

1st Choice: Communications and Technology, 2nd Choice: Communications and Technology, 3rd Choice: Communications and Technology
Name of Person to Contact
Tyler Yaple
Phone
614-309-2453
Relationship to You
Staff



[Click here to view the event summary](#)

We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,
Mason Hunt
Events Coordinator
mhunt@alec.org



If you no longer want to receive emails from ALEC Events, please [Opt-Out](#)

Your payment for the 2017 Spring Task Force Summit event has been successfully processed. Please save this email for your records.

Transaction Information:

Item	Transaction Information	Quantity	Amount
Event Registration		1	\$175.00
Transaction Total			\$175.00

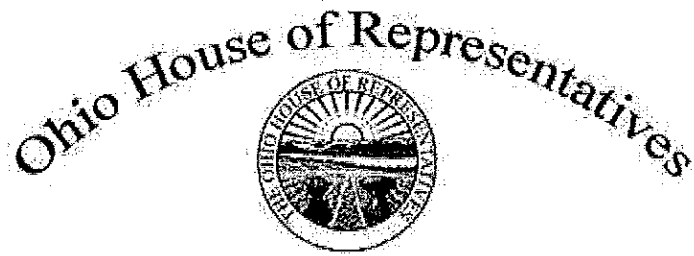
Registration Confirmation Number: Z6NGMG7BGXH

[View your registration](#)

If you have any questions about this transaction or email, please contact ALEC Events directly at meetings@alec.org.

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From: Rosenberger, Cliff
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 11:33 AM
To: Rosenberger, Cliff
Subject: MEMO: 2017 ALEC Spring Task Force Summit
Attachments: ALECSpringTaskForce.pdf



Cliff Rosenberger
Speaker, Ohio House of Representatives

Memorandum

To: All House Republican Members
From: Speaker Cliff Rosenberger
Date: April 11, 2017
Re: 2017 ALEC Spring Task Force Summit

As many of you already know, the American Legislative Exchange Council is America's largest nonpartisan, voluntary membership organization of state legislators dedicated to the principles of limited government, free markets and federalism. Comprised of nearly one-quarter of the country's state legislators and stakeholders from across the policy spectrum, ALEC members represent more than 60 million Americans and provide jobs to more than 30 million people in the United States.

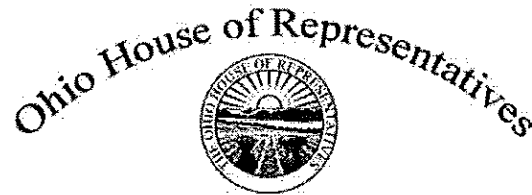
On May 5, 2017, ALEC will be hosting their Spring Task Force Summit, located in Charlotte, North Carolina. This one-day summit will give participants the opportunity to collaborate with legislative leaders from across the country on some of the following issues:

- Civil Justice

- Commerce, Insurance and Economic Development
- Communications and Technology
- Criminal Justice Reform
- Education and Workforce Development
- Energy, Environment and Agriculture
- Health and Human Services
- Tax and Fiscal Policy

I can personally attest to the benefit of working with leaders from across our great country to find solutions to common issues. If you are interested in joining ALEC and participating in the 2017 Spring Task Force Summit, I encourage you to visit their website at <https://www.alec.org/>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or to Tyler Yapple in my office at Tyler.Yapple@ohiohouse.gov or 614-466-7959.



Cliff Rosenberger
Speaker, Ohio House of Representatives

Memorandum

To: All House Republican Members
From: Speaker Cliff Rosenberger
Date: April 11, 2017
Re: 2017 ALEC Spring Task Force Summit

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I can personally attest to the benefit of working with leaders from across our great country to find solutions to common issues. If you are interested in joining ALEC and participating in the 2017 Spring Task Force Summit, I encourage you to visit their website at <https://www.alec.org/>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or to Tyler Yapple in my office at Tyler.Yapple@ohiohouse.gov or 614-466-7959.

From: Fleck, Craig
Sent: Friday, June 22, 2018 3:42 PM
To: GOP_All
Subject: New GOP Additions

WELCOME

When you get a free minute, please make sure to introduce yourself and welcome the newest members of our team.



Tyler Herrmann, Deputy Legal Counsel / Policy Advisor

Tyler is from Harrison, Ohio and holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Cincinnati and a Political Science degree from Wright State University. Tyler served in the United States Air Force as an Operations Intelligence Analyst NCO and currently serves as a JAG Attorney for the United States Army. He currently presides as the Chairman for the Ohio Chapter of the Republican National Lawyers Association, and as the Treasurer for the Cap City Young

Republicans. Tyler transferred to the House from the Attorney General's Office where he served as an Assistant Attorney General within the Executive Agencies Section.

James Kennedy, LA Merrin



James is from Palm City, Florida and an alum of Florida, Atlantic University where he graduated with a degree in Political Science. While in college he had the opportunity to serve as a Tax and Fiscal Policy Intern for the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). James has an extensive research background serving as a Legal Research Analyst Intern for the Buckeye Institute and as a Political-Military Analyst Intern for the Hudson Institute. Prior to arriving to the House, he served as a Legislative Assistant for the Tennessee Legislation Service in Nashville. In James' free time, he enjoys collecting sports memorabilia and claims to have personally met nearly every

major league baseball
superstar.

Lauren Reid, LA Butler



Lauren is from Madison, Connecticut, and recently graduated from the University of Dayton with degrees in Criminal Justice and Political Science with a minor in Spanish. While at Dayton, she served as a Statehouse Civic Scholar, where she was assigned an internship working for the Governor's communication team. Lauren had the unique experience of traveling to Segovia, Spain, where she participated in a four-week immersion program. During the winter months whenever she gets the opportunity, she enjoys to snowmobile.

Craig Fleck

Deputy Administrative Officer
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 12th Floor

Columbus, Ohio 43215
Cell: 440.376.6098
Office: 614.466.2175
Craig.fleck@ohiohouse.gov

From: Flasher, Kim
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2018 3:19 PM
To: House_All
Subject: Legislative Conferences and Travel
Attachments: Travel Request Form.docx

Memo to: All House Members

From: Speaker Ryan Smith

Date: July 13, 2018

Re: Legislative Conferences Annual Meetings

As you may know, the Ohio General Assembly pays dues to several National Legislative Conferences such as NCSL, CSG, and ALEC. As these organizations begin holding their annual meetings, several of you may be interested in attending.

In the past, the House has allowed a limited number of Members to attend with a set expenditure reimbursement from the State permitted. This year, the House will approve any Member who would like to attend ONE national meeting and will cover the conference registration fees. The Member is liable for all remaining expenses. Such expenses may be covered through personal or campaign funds.

It is advised that you consult with your caucus Legal Counsel before utilizing campaign funds toward any travel.

If you would like to register for one of the annual meetings, please complete the attached "Request for Travel Form" and return it to Kim Flasher in the Administrative Office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Kim. Thank you.



TRAVEL REQUEST FORM

Traveler _____ Today's Date _____

*I have attached a copy of the conference Itinerary and associated registration fees
for review.*

Conference _____

Conference

Location _____

—

Date Conference Begins _____ Date Conference Ends _____

Request to travel approved:
by:

Expenses to be reimbursed

Representatives
Kim Flasher, Chief Administrative Officer

House of

Service Commission
Date

Legislative

From: Ingram, Catherine
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2018 4:31 PM
To: Flasher, Kim; House_All
Subject: Re: Legislative Conferences and Travel

Is this message in regard to only the annual meeting or does it also refer to any other event sponsored by said organizations?

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

----- Original message -----

From: "Flasher, Kim" <Kim.Flasher@ohiohouse.gov>
Date: 7/13/18 3:18 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: House_All <House_All@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Legislative Conferences and Travel

Memo to: All House Members
From: Speaker Ryan Smith
Date: July 13, 2018
Re: Legislative Conferences Annual Meetings

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If you would like to register for one of the annual meetings, please complete the attached "Request for Travel Form" and return it to Kim Flasher in the Administrative Office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Kim. Thank you.

From: Flasher, Kim
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2018 9:53 PM
To: Ingram, Catherine
CC: House_All
Subject: Re: Legislative Conferences and Travel

Representative Ingram,

Thank you for the question. This applies to all travel.

Have a good weekend,

Kim

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 13, 2018, at 4:31 PM, Ingram, Catherine <Catherine.Ingram@ohiohouse.gov> wrote:

Is this message in regard to only the annual meeting or does it also refer to any other event sponsored by said organizations?

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

----- Original message -----

From: "Flasher, Kim" <Kim.Flasher@ohiohouse.gov>
Date: 7/13/18 3:18 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: House_All <House_All@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Legislative Conferences and Travel

Memo to: All House Members

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If you would like to register for one of the annual meetings, please complete the attached "Request for Travel Form" and return it to Kim Flasher in the Administrative Office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Kim. Thank you.

From: Gongwer News Service
Sent: Thursday, April 5, 2018 6:36 PM
To: DL Gongwer
Subject: Ohio Report, Thursday, April 5, 2018
Attachments: Apr6Schedule.htm; Apr5.htm; 180405dayplan.htm; Apr5House.htm

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OHIO REPORT THURSDAY, APRIL 5

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= A

Years In The Making, Dating Protection Order Bill Signed Into Law

State Regulators Temper Expectations For Medical Marijuana Launch

Medicaid Managed Long-Term Care Hinges On Evaluations Of MyCare Ohio

Republican Introduces Bill To Enact Kasich-Proposed Firearm Changes

Justice Review Explores Effective Policing Strategies

State Revenue Steady In March, Keeps Stream Above Estimates For The Fiscal Year

School Funding, Accessibility Among Themes Driving GOP Primary Contest In House District 67

Super PAC Launches Pro-Balderson Ad Campaign; NARAL Pro-Choice Backs Cordray; Rand Paul Endorses Taylor

Agency Briefs: ODOT Plans Busy Construction, Maintenance Season; IG; BWC; SOS

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

ACTIVITY REPORTS

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House

CALENDARS

Day Planner

Legislative Committee Schedules

Please send all correspondence to gongwer@gongwer-oh.com. This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

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Legislative Committee Schedules beginning 4/6/2018

Tuesday, April 10

House Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Smith, R., 466-1366), Rm. 313, 9 a.m.

- HB 508** OHIO CORPS (Ryan, S., Reineke, B.) To establish the OhioCorps Pilot Project and to make an appropriation. (6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)
- HB 318** SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (Patterson, J., LaTourette, S.) To define the necessary qualifications and responsibilities of school resource officers. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

Senate Energy & Natural Resources (Committee Record) (Chr. Balderson, T., 466-8076), Finance Hearing Rm., 9:30 a.m.

- SB 257** SPORTING LICENSURE (Uecker, J., O'Brien, S.) To make changes to the laws governing hunting and fishing. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 225** OIL GAS WELLS (Thompson, A.) To modify the law governing idle and orphaned oil and gas wells. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- House Ways & Means (Committee Record) (Chr. Schaffer, T., 466-8100), Rm. 121, 10 a.m.

- HB 545** SALES TAX REMITTANCE (Arndt, S.) To authorize small retailers to remit sales taxes when the retailer receives payment from the purchaser if the payment is received after the purchased item is delivered or the service is provided. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- HB 513** HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION (Brenner, A., Ginter, T.) To enhance the homestead exemption for surviving spouses of peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel killed in the line of duty. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)

- HB 524** COLLEGE SAVINGS (Scherer, G., Patterson, J.) To expand the income tax deduction allowed for contributions to Ohio's 529 college savings program to include contributions to 529 programs established by other states. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

- HB 232** TAX DEDUCTION (Rogers, J., Rezabek, J.) To authorize, for six years, a personal income tax deduction for attorneys and pass-through entity law firms based on the number of hours the attorney performed pro bono legal work for indigent clients through a legal aid society and the expenses associated with that work. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Senate Public Utilities (Committee Record) (Chr. Beagle, B., 466-6247), Finance Hearing Rm., 10:30 a.m.

- Confirmation hearing on attorney general's appointment of Beverlyn Johns, Consumers' Counsel Governing Board

- HB 422** WATER SEWER ACQUISITIONS (Ginter, T., Rogers, J.) To govern acquisitions of municipal water-works and sewage disposal system companies by certain larger

nonmunicipal water-works or sewage disposal system companies. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 478 **WIRELESS SERVICES** (Smith, R., LaTourette, S.) To modify the law regarding wireless service and the placement of small cell wireless facilities in the public way. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)
House Agriculture & Rural Development (Committee Record) (Chr. Hill, B., 644-6014), Rm. 116, 11 a.m.

HB 501 **VETERINARY TITLES** (LaTourette, S., Huffman, S.) To change professional title of "registered veterinary technician" to "registered veterinary nurse." (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor (Committee Record) (Chr. Young, R., 644-6074), Rm. 113, 1:30 p.m.

HB 171 **EMS SHIFTS** (Patmon, B.) To limit the hours worked in a work shift and to require work breaks for emergency medical service providers. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Possible substitute)

HB 331 **ACCIDENT REPORTS** (Ingram, C.) To prohibit the use of information obtained from an accident report by any person for commercial solicitation purposes. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Possible substitute)

HB 433 **VETERINARY EDUCATION** (Kelly, B., Brinkman, T.) To allow a licensed veterinarian to receive up to two continuing education credits per biennium for performing free spaying and neutering services. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HCR 24 **GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS** (Riedel, C., Holmes, G.) To urge Congress to propose the Regulation Freedom Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 236 **ELEVATOR LAW** (Patton, T., Cupp, R.) To enact the Model Elevator Law. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible substitute)

Senate Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Oelslager, S., 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m.

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of Megan Cremeans and Zachary Haines, Miami University Board of Trustees; Iris Martinez Juergens, Central State University Board of Trustees and Kathy Maguschak, Eastern Gateway Community College Board of Trustees

SB 271 **SPORTS EVENTS** (Kunze, S., Eklund, J.) To remove limitations on the amount of sports events grants that may be awarded in a fiscal year or for a specific grant, and to fund the grant program by diverting state sales tax receipts to a custodial fund administered by the Director of Development Services. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 353 **UNCLAIMED FUNDS** (Reineke, B.) To exempt certain open-loop prepaid cards, closed-loop prepaid cards, and rewards cards from the Unclaimed Funds Law. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 246 **STUDENT REMOVAL** (Lehner, P., Manning, G.) To enact the "SAFE Act" to revise the procedures for emergency removal of a student, to prohibit certain suspensions and expulsions of students in grades pre-kindergarten through three, to require each public school to implement a positive behavior intervention and supports framework in

accordance with state standards, and to make an appropriation. (4th Hearing-All testimony)

SB 116 **MILITARY TRANSFERS (LaRose, F., Williams, S.)** To permit persons who quit work to accompany the person's spouse on a military transfer to be eligible for unemployment compensation benefits. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

SB 135 **VOTING EQUIPMENT (LaRose, F.)** To make supplemental operating appropriations for the FY 2018-FY 2019 biennium and supplemental capital appropriations for the FY 2017-FY 2018 biennium to implement a voting machine and equipment acquisition program. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

House Federalism & Interstate Relations (Committee Record) (Chr. Roegner, K., 466-1177), Rm. 115, 4 p.m.

HB 228 **GUN LAWS (Johnson, T., LaTourette, S.)** To assign to the prosecution the burden of disproving a self-defense or related claim, to expand the locations at which a person has no duty to retreat before using force under both civil and criminal law, and to modify the Concealed Handgun Licensing Law regarding a licensee's duty to keep the licensee's hands in plain sight, the penalties for illegally carrying a concealed firearm or improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle, and the posting of warning signs regarding the possession of weapons on specified premises. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute & vote)

HB 253 **CONCEALED WEAPONS (Householder, L., Lanese, L.)** To permit law enforcement officers to carry firearms off duty in places otherwise prohibited for concealed handgun licensees. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

House Education & Career Readiness (Committee Record) (Chr. Brenner, A., 644-6711), Rm. 121, 4 p.m.

- Presentation on school funding in Ohio by EdBuild
- 1st Hearing-Sponsor testimony on bill from Rep. Duffey-Pending introduction and referral

HB 549 **SCHOOL YEAR (Arndt, S.)** To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 540 **TEACHER EVALUATIONS (Gavarone, T., Manning, N.)** With regard to teacher evaluations. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Wednesday, April 11

House Health (Committee Record) (Chr. Huffman, S., 466-8114), Rm. 121, 9 a.m.

HB 231 **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (Ginter, T., Sprague, R.)** To require pharmacists to offer to dispense controlled substances in lockable or tamper-evident containers. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HB 464 **STROKE PATIENTS (Lipps, S., Antonio, N.)** To provide for recognition of stroke centers and establishment of protocols for assessment, treatment, and transport to hospitals of stroke patients. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HB 456 **NURSING OVERTIME (Sprague, R.)** To prohibit a hospital from requiring a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse to work overtime as a condition of continued employment. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)

- HB 546** **TELEMEDICINE (Patton, T.)** To prohibit health benefit plans from treating telemedicine services differently from in-person health care services solely because they are provided as telemedicine services. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 559** **CHILD IMMUNIZATIONS (Gonzales, A., Landis, A.)** To make changes to the law governing immunization of children enrolled in school, preschool programs, and day-care programs. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 541** **VOLUNTEER HEALTH SERVICES (Patterson, J., LaTourette, S.)** To authorize health professionals licensed in other states to provide volunteer health services during charitable events. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- HB 326** **PRESCRIBING AUTHORITY (Seitz, B., Gavarone, T.)** To authorize certain psychologists to prescribe psychotropic and other drugs for the treatment of drug addiction and mental illness. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- HB 72** **STEP THERAPY (Johnson, T., Antonio, N.)** To adopt requirements related to step therapy protocols implemented by health plan issuers and the Department of Medicaid. (5th Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 557** **ART THERAPY (Anielski, M.)** To require the licensure of art therapists and to require the State Medical Board to regulate the licensure and practice of art therapists. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Senate Ways & Means (Committee Record) (Chr. Eklund, J., 644-7718), South Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

- HB 133** **DISASTER WORK (Ryan, S.)** To create the Disaster Relief Act to exempt out-of-state disaster businesses and qualifying out-of-state employees from certain taxes and laws with respect to disaster work on critical infrastructure performed in this state during a declared disaster. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

Senate Public Utilities (Committee Record) (Chr. Beagle, B., 466-6247), Finance Hearing Rm., 9:15 a.m.

- HB 478** **WIRELESS SERVICES (Smith, R., LaTourette, S.)** To modify the law regarding wireless service and the placement of small cell wireless facilities in the public way. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

Tax Expenditure Review Committee (Chr. Oelslager, S., 466-0626), Senate Finance Hearing Rm., 10 a.m.

- **Review of sales to churches and certain other non-profit organizations; sales to the state, any of its political subdivisions and certain other states; sales by churches and certain types of non-profit organizations; tangible personal property used primarily in manufacturing tangible personal property and packaging and packaging equipment**

Senate Government Oversight & Reform (Committee Record) (Chr. Coley, B., 466-8072), Finance Hearing Rm., 10 a.m.

- SB 268** **THEFT IN OFFICE (Wilson, S.)** To expand the increased penalties for theft in office based on the amount of property or services stolen and to include as restitution certain audit costs of the entity that suffered the loss involved in the offense. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- SB 219** **FIREARM ACCESSORIES (Thomas, C.)** To prohibit certain conduct regarding trigger cranks, bump-fire devices, and other items that accelerate a semi-automatic firearm's rate of fire but do not convert it into an automatic firearm. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- SB 278** **FIREARM ACCESS** (Schiavoni, J., Williams, S.) To enact the Extreme Risk Protection Order Act to allow family members, household members, and law enforcement officers to obtain a court order that temporarily restricts a person's access to firearms if that person poses a danger to themselves or others. (Informal Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 137** **CHILD ABUSE REPORTING** (Kent, B.) To make municipal and county peace officers mandatory reporters of child abuse or neglect. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- SB 239** **REGIONAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS** (Dolan, M.) To modify the law concerning regional councils of governments. (6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 201** **PRISON TERMS** (Bacon, K., O'Brien, S.) To provide for indefinite prison terms for first or second degree felonies and specified third degree felonies, with presumptive release of offenders sentenced to such a term at the end of the minimum term; to generally allow the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction to reduce the minimum term for exceptional conduct or adjustment to incarceration; to allow the Department to rebut the release presumption and keep the offender in prison up to the maximum term if it makes specified findings; and to name the act's provisions the Reagan Tokes Law. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 122** **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** (Hambley, S., Rogers, J.) To establish a Regional Economic Development Alliance Study Committee to study the benefits and challenges involved in creating regional economic development alliances. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 255** **OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING** (McColley, R.) To establish a statewide policy on occupational regulation, to require standing committees of the General Assembly to periodically review occupational licensing boards regarding their sunset, and to require the Legislative Service Commission to perform assessments of occupational licensing bills and state regulation of occupations. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)
- Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-7505), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.
 House Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
 Senate Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
 House Civil Justice (Committee Record) (Chr. Butler, J., 644-6008), Rm. 121, 3 p.m. or after session
- HB 480** **MULTI-PARCEL AUCTIONS** (Hill, B.) To establish requirements governing multi-parcel auctions. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- HB 419** **EMERGENCY LIABILITY** (Henne, M.) To modify the defense to the liability of a member of a police or fire department or emergency medical service of a political subdivision for the negligent operation of a motor vehicle in response to an emergency by requiring that the vehicle has its lights and sirens simultaneously activated. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- Senate Education (Committee Record) (Chr. Lehner, P., 466-4538), South Hearing Rm., 3:15 p.m.
- HB 87** **COMMUNITY SCHOOLS** (Roegner, K.) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- HB 438** **ESC BOARDS** ([Hambley, S.](#), [Kick, D.](#)) To permit the addition of appointed members to educational service center boards, to permit a local school district to sever its territory from one educational service center and annex that territory to an adjacent service center under specified conditions, and to authorize educational service centers to establish local professional development committees. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 21** **COMMUNITY SCHOOLS** ([Hambley, S.](#)) Regarding verification of community school enrollments. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

Thursday, April 12

~~Canceled: Ohio Retirement Study Council (Committee Record) (Chr. Schuring, K., 228-4346), Rm. 424, 10 a.m.~~

House Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1 p.m.

- If needed

Monday, April 16

Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (Committee Record) (Chr. Uecker, J., 644-6030), Senate Finance Hearing Rm., 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 18


Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-7505), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

- If needed
House Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
- If needed
Senate Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
- If needed

Thursday, April 19

Joint Education Oversight Committee (Committee Record) (Chr. Manning, G., 466-8150), Senate South Hearing Rm., 8:45 a.m.

- Presentation on Value Added by John White and Jennifer Bell of the SAS EVAAS Group
- Update on progress of other research projects (tentative)
House Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1 p.m.
- If needed

NOTE: Click bill or resolution number links to see the legislative history compiled by Gongwer News Service. Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill. Click "Full Text" if present to view the text of legislation on the Legislature's Web site.

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Volume #87, Report #66 -- Thursday, April 5, 2018

More Than A Year In The Making, Kasich Signs Protection Order Bill

Ohio joined 48 other states on Thursday when Gov. John Kasich signed a measure into law allowing for the issuance of civil dating violence protection orders.

The governor's signing of the legislation (HB 1) comes more than a year after a similar measure was scuttled in last session's lame duck period.

It was designated the first priority bill last year in the House after the Senate declined to take a concurrence vote on a previous version in the waning moments of the 131st General Assembly. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 9, 2016)

This time around the measure that garnered unanimous support in both chambers had bipartisan co-sponsors in Rep. Emilia Sykes (D-Akron) and Rep. Nathan Manning (R-N. Ridgeville).

An emotional Rep. Sykes, who was joined at the signing ceremony by her parents, Sen. Vernon Sykes (R-Akron) and former Rep. Barbara Sykes, said that in her very first interview with a Statehouse reporter she vowed to make dating violence protection orders a priority. Two years later, she said she is "elated, proud and truly honored."

"For entirely too long victims of dating violence have been in the shadows," she said.

Rep. Sykes also said the measure will send a message to both abusers and the abused.

"The people of this state need to know their leaders are willing to stand by them in their times of need," she said. "House Bill 1 does exactly that."

Proponents of the bill said the lack of dating violence protection left thousands at risk because current law defines domestic violence as occurring between spouses, family members, those cohabiting or parents.

One of the architects of the bill that stalled in of the previous General Assembly, former Rep. Christie Kuhns, said during testimony on the measure that research conducted 2003-2012 found most domestic violence was committed by a current or former boyfriend or girlfriend.

Ms. Kuhns during the signing ceremony thanked Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) for making the legislation the House's top priority, calling it a "commendable show of bipartisanship."

Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Minerva Park), who ushered the bill through the Senate Judiciary Committee, said the legislation took longer than some thought it should to pass.

"You work through these bills," he said. "They might sound easy, but they're not."

Before signing the bill, Gov. Kasich brought up legislation (HB 585) that came to fruition after he convened a bipartisan working group to look into gun violence. One proposal was to ensure that those convicted of domestic violence cannot legally own a firearm. *(See separate story)*

"That should be a gimme," he said.

As for the bill he signed, he called it "just one more step in the area of justice with a long way to go."

State Regulators Temper Expectations For Medical Marijuana Launch

Not all dispensaries and products will be available to patients when Ohio's medical marijuana program launches Sept. 8, state regulators said Thursday.

But representatives from the Department of Commerce and the pharmacy and medical boards each said they're confident they can meet that statutory deadline to have the program up and running in some form.

"To us, the vision for Sept. 8 is patients are going to be able to go to dispensaries and have access to medical marijuana," Mark Hamlin, DOC's senior policy advisor, said after a meeting of the Medical Marijuana Advisory Committee.

The law requires the program to be "fully operational" by Sept. 8. What exactly that means is subject to interpretation, but Mr. Hamlin said those hoping the state will have the maximum 57 dispensaries open this fall are likely to be disappointed.

"Do I think there will be 57? Do I think there needs to be 57 on day one? I don't," he said. "So that by itself means a patient may have to drive farther to access medical marijuana than they ultimately would. I think it will be limited but it will be available."

He called the launch date a "checkpoint" rather than the "finish line" and said the agency and others involved in the rollout don't want to emulate the programs in other states - particularly Illinois - that overestimated the patient population on day one and left businesses hanging in a financial lurch.

"We will be operational," said DOC Director Jacqueline Williams. "But we have to temper our view of what this program is going to look like on day one."

The program has sparked continued questions over whether regulators can meet the deadline later this year - concerns only strengthened by recent controversy over the

handling of cultivator application scoring. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 20, 2018)

Following those questions, the department announced late last year it would pursue a third-party auditor to review the scoring and identify potential improvements. An attorney general-appointed special counsel - Squire Patton Boggs - is working now to finalize that third party, which Mr. Hamlin expects to be named in the coming days. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 14, 2017)

The fact that the third party hasn't yet been finalized has hindered the nearly 70 administrative appeals waiting to be heard, Mr. Hamlin said. "Time is of the essence." (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 23, 2018)

A.J. Groeber, executive director of the State Medical Board, and Erin Reed, senior legal counsel for the State Board of Pharmacy, also told committee members they should keep their expectations in check.

"I expect it to be in operation but also very limited in operation," Mr. Groeber said. "Absolutely we will have dispensaries open but they will be limited. There will be limited product available...but that product will have been tested and will have been processed appropriately.

"If anyone expects this to be fully blown on Sept. 8 that's not a realistic expectation," he added.

Mr. Groeber said 40-50 applications were received from physicians seeking a certificate to recommend. The first batch will likely be approved at the board's April 11 meeting.

"They are geographically dispersed around the state, so that's great," Mr. Groeber said, adding that more certifications are likely to be granted.

Ms. Reed said her board plans to announce dispensary licensing awards in early May. In the meantime, the board is preparing a third round of testing for its patient registry and plans to publish information on its in-progress toll-free hotline closer to June.

"I think it's really important the committee and the public have realistic expectations for what Sept. 8 is going to look like," Ms. Reed said.

Mr. Hamlin, formerly chief of staff to Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor before joining DOC a month ago, is spearheading and coordinating its medical marijuana efforts with the two regulatory boards.

As for the lawsuits, he told reporters and the committee the department believes the process used to score applications was "both legal and valid" and that the litigation won't derail the timetable.

"If somebody throws a wrench into the timeline we're working on we're going to talk about how we'll deal with that," he said. "But at this point those things are all unknowns that can't really slow down the work we're doing so we're proceeding with the provisional licenses...with an eye for September."

DOC expects to begin issuing provisional testing lab licenses in early May.

"Our intention is any and all of the public university applicants who qualify under the scoring we'll announce those in early May. Any private lab we'll announce in early June," Mr. Hamlin said. "We think we really need to have a lab operational by mid-August to test the marijuana to come from the first cultivator harvest."

Mr. Hamlin said he anticipates the department will appear before the Controlling Board on April 23 to request a "couple million dollars" for staffing and other resources needed for the program. A defined figure isn't yet set, he said.

"What I think the legislature wants to see is that request we ask for is tied into a vision and a strategy," Mr. Hamlin said. "And I think that we have one. I think it continues to evolve but I think that's the burden that's on us to demonstrate."

Medicaid Managed Long-Term Care Hinges On Evaluations Of MyCare Ohio

A working group looking at the potential move of Medicaid long-term services and supports has a lot of issues to review, ranging from whether a floor should be set for rates to who should provide care coordination.

At the heart of the matter, however, lies a key question: Has the state's MyCare Ohio project, which provides managed long-term services and supports services for certain dual Medicaid/Medicare enrollees, been successful?

The debate that featured prominently in negotiations over the biennial budget (HB 49) continued Thursday as the Medicaid Managed Long-Term Services and Supports Study Committee met to consider a variety of questions about barriers to health care outcomes, state rule redundancies and best practices for service delivery.

Pete Van Runkle, executive director of the Ohio Health Care Association, which represents nursing facilities, said more data is needed to determine just how successful the nearly four-year-old MyCare project has been.

"When you dig deep, we don't really have much data about what's happened with MyCare Ohio," he said. "We have a lot of people's opinions. We have many things that you can say about it anecdotally."

Mr. Van Runkle said it's unclear just how much the state has saved from the MyCare program's move of LTSS into managed care, which covers dual-eligible enrollees in

mostly large urban counties - and how the quality of care compares to the same services provided under the old fee-for-service model.

Miranda Motter, president and CEO of the Ohio Association of Health Plans, said the lack of clear evaluations of and payment for quality under fee-for-service also equates to a lack of data.

Moving LTSS into managed care would likely improve the quality of services provided, she argued.

"I think that's the reason that many of us are sitting at this table," she said. "I think many of us think that we can do better."

Ms. Motter pointed to MLTSS programs in other states as an indicator that the move could improve quality while reducing costs in Ohio.

"Under a managed care long-term services and supports care coordinated approach, there are clear, measurable points of accountability," she said.

Many provider groups said the system should encourage value-based payment models, but they also want a rate floor or other guardrails to ensure rates aren't cut.

"There need to be rate protections in place. MCOs love to cut rates," said Chris Murray, director of economic and policy analysis for the Academy of Senior Health Sciences. "That's just not going to work in the long-term services and supports system."

Kathryn Brod, president and CEO of LeadingAge Ohio, said managed care could improve quality by creating a system to pay more for better quality care.

"If we could develop a quality design system in an MLTSS system that allows us to leverage the quality in a different way than we can in a fee-for-service system, we would look for that," she said.

Any system that pays based on performance should align the outcomes for both the providers and the managed care organizations, she said. The system should also acknowledge the benefits of having staff in long-term care facilities, who interact with residents every day, serve as care coordinators.

"We seek contracts that fully tap our providers' care management expertise," Ms. Brod said.

Jean Thompson, executive director of the Ohio Assisted Living Association, said her member facilities also need to be considered in any changes. The payment rate they receive from Medicaid hasn't changed since the Assisted Living Waiver was implemented in 2006 despite the rapid growth of assisted living, she said.

"Our people can't go lower, and they are not going to support the expansion of managed long-term services and supports without a guarantee that they would at least receive the stated amount," she said.

Ms. Thompson also emphasized that assisted living facilities already provide care coordination, and that managed care could duplicate that effort.

"In assisted living, managed care has added an inefficient duplication," she said. "The care services for private pay assisted living residents, which are most of the assisted living residents in Ohio, are managed and coordinated by the assisted living staff."

Some groups are open to the change but want to ensure it goes more smoothly than the MyCare transition. Deb Studer, a board member of the Ohio Council for Home Care and Hospice, said the group has worked with the Department of Medicaid and the OAHF to ease some concerns.

"While the MyCare program has created much frustration at times, we have learned a great deal," she said.

A new program should ensure people have the ability to choose home care and provide for a smooth transition from hospitals to home and community-based services, she said.

Barbara Riley, with the Ohio Aging Advocacy Coalition, urged lawmakers to ensure any move is focused on improving services for both the client and their caregivers.

"Clearly we are supportive of any move that would better manage the services and supports that are delivered to those who are aging in Ohio and need care, either in their homes or in other long-term care settings," she said.

Republican Introduces Bill To Enact Kasich-Proposed Firearm Changes

Rep. Michael Henne on Thursday proposed a range of changes to firearm laws, including creating gun violence protection orders and banning purchases of firearms for third parties.

His legislation (HB 585) encompasses many of the same ideas Gov. John Kasich announced last month as a way to tackle gun violence while protecting Americans' Second Amendment rights.

"They're just sensible changes that are going to help actually keep guns out of the hands of people who shouldn't have them without stepping on the rights of the ones who are the responsible gun owners," Rep. Henne said in an interview.

Major changes in the proposal include the creation of extreme risk protection orders in which law enforcement or a family member could petition a court to force a person to relinquish their firearms if they are deemed a threat to themselves or others.

"They have the due process to protect the peoples' right with specific definitions of what is permissible," Rep. Henne said. "It's got to be 'clear and convincing' evidence and the person will have a right to make their case why they shouldn't have their guns taken away."

It would also ban the sale of armor-piercing ammunition and prohibit so-called "strawman" purchases, or firearm acquisitions on behalf of a third party.

"If you're giving it as a gift, that's one thing, but if you're buying it for somebody else because they don't want to do a background check that would be against the law," Rep. Henne said.

Other changes in the plan include:

- Mirroring federal law regarding individuals who may not possess a firearm or dangerous ordnance, including those who: were convicted of a felony or domestic violence, violated a protective order, or were dishonorably discharged from the military.
- Requiring protection orders to be entered into the federal National Crime Information Center and Law Enforcement Automated Data System databases.
- Adopting the federal definition of an automatic firearm.

The Clayton Republican said he's long been working on the protection order language. When he heard Gov. Kasich's proposals, he said, he reached out to the administration and sought to wrap those proposals into his bill.

"When the governor's right, he's right," Rep. Henne said. "I don't always agree with him on everything, but he's right on this issue."

Rep. Henne said he anticipates a first hearing next week, although the legislation hasn't yet been assigned to a particular committee.

Brad Miller, spokesman for House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger, said the speaker appreciates Rep. Henne's effort to spark further discussion.

"This is something that the caucus as a whole will review and provide input to," Mr. Miller said. "What House Bill 585 does is take the recommendations from the governor's working group and put those concepts into one bill so that when members discuss these ideas and issues, they have a single document to refer to."

Rep. Henne's proposal is likely to face criticism, at least based on the resistance gun groups have already expressed to Gov. Kasich's proposals. That slate of proposals was unveiled at a Statehouse news conference the month following a mass shooting at a Florida high school that left 17 people dead. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 1, 2018)

The Buckeye Firearm Association, for instance, voiced support for the governor's proposal to limit "strawman" purchases but called the rest of the governor's plan "political grandstanding" written by "somebody who either doesn't understand firearms or doesn't care about peoples' lives."

Democrats, however, voiced their support for many of the governor's recommendations and said the country has reached a "breaking point" with gun violence.

Rep. Henne, who faces term limits this year, said he's anticipating pushback on the legislation. Thus far, he has no cosponsors on the bill.

"People will say I didn't go far enough or say I went too far," he said. "But we're willing to work with anybody."

He said he tried to draft the protection order language using guidelines he believes the National Rifle Association will support.

"Some people want to blame the guns, but we all agree we need to keep guns away from people who don't have the capacity to have guns," the sponsor said. "This isn't going after the guns. This is going after the people (who shouldn't have them)."

Justice Review Explores Effective Policing Strategies

State policies have the potential to reduce violence and improve policing, members of an offshoot of the Criminal Sentencing Commission were told on Thursday.

Among the strategies lawmakers can implement are training and technical assistance, providing resources to address emerging problems, funding and promoting evidence-based programs and supporting officer wellness initiatives, said Robin Engel, vice president for safety and reform at the University of Cincinnati.

In a presentation to the Justice Reinvestment in Ohio 2.0, she told members attending meeting in Columbus that one of the evidence-based programs that proved to be effective in Cincinnati was the Initiative to Reduce Violence, which focused on a reduction in gun and gang violence and was later replicated in several cities across the state.

The program led to a 42% reduction in gang member-involved homicides and a 22% reduction in shootings over a 42-month period, according to Ms. Engel.

Karhlton Moore, executive director of the Office of Criminal Justice Services, said one of the efforts focused on a gang dubbed "the Taliband."

"They had basically held these people hostage for years and years and years," he said of the community in which the gang operated.

Mr. Moore added that taking on the gang improved relations between the community and police, which resulted in more tips provided by citizens.

"The biggest drawback from this strategy is sustainability," he said. "It takes a lot of people for this strategy to work."

Warren County Sheriff Larry Simms said a top-down approach is not effective in policing.

"Everybody is different," he said. "Every community is different."

Policing strategies and policies can also have unintended consequences, Ms. Engel said.

In the case of SpotShotter technology, which uses acoustic sensors to locate gunshots, she said it can lead to unnecessary dispatches to false alerts and a reduction in citizen reports of shots fired, she said. It has also not proven to be effective in reducing violence.

"So far there hasn't been a study yet that has shown a significant reduction in violence directly linked to this technology," she said.

While body-worn cameras have increased police legitimacy and accountability and improved report writing and documentation accuracy, they have also led to an increase in assaults on officers and more arrests.

"In some jurisdictions we are seeing an increase in arrests because officers feel like they have less discretion," she said.

Bellefontaine Police Chief Brandon Standley offered an example of his own. He said he's found that the more doses of Narcan it takes to revive someone who overdosed on opioids, the less likely it is for a member of the general public to believe that person should have been saved.

Policing strategies need not only to be effective, they should also be equitable and build trust within communities, Ms. Engel said.

"I do not believe we have to have a tradeoff between equity and effectiveness in policing," she said.

The presentation by Ms. Engel comes as violent crime rates have fallen by 14% from 2006 to 2016. However, over the same time, violent crimes are up in non-metropolitan areas by 27% and homicide rates increased across the state by 19%.

Nonetheless, Ms. Engel called it "good news" that crime rates have not risen correspondingly with opioid use.

State Revenue Steady In March, Keeps Stream Above Estimates For The Fiscal Year

Unlike the volatile spring weather in Ohio, state revenue stayed on an even keel in March, in the process keeping the state on track to finish Fiscal Year 2018 in the black.

The latest preliminary revenue charts, issued Thursday by the Office of Budget and Management, found sales taxes bouncing back a bit and accounting for most of the overage for the month compared to budget planning projections. The category's performance offset dips in personal income and commercial activity taxes, according to state data for the month.

Sales tax collections in March totaled \$746 million, and thanks to the non-auto portion exceeding expectations by \$30 million, the category overall came in about \$28.9 million ahead of schedule, OBM reported.

The other bright spots were in the financial institutions tax (\$14 million above estimates) and the foreign insurance tax (+13.5 million).

Those tax collections balanced out shortfalls in the CAT (-\$13.7 million) and PIT (-\$14.2 million), OBM figures show. The \$478.8 million in PIT intake for the month was 2.9% off the mark.

Despite the strong sales tax data for March, non-auto sales continue to lag projections for the fiscal year to date by nearly \$40 million, but auto sales taxes have picked up the slack, coming in almost \$44 million above estimates with three months remaining in FY 2018. As such, OBM reports that the overall sales tax category is currently spot on with planning numbers for the year.

An earlier surge of PIT collections, partly attributed by analysts to the recent federal tax law changes, has that tax still ahead of estimates by \$211 million for the year to date.

That overage accounts for nearly all of the cushion that tax revenues have built up over the year, as the \$16.085 billion in total tax receipts is \$230 million, or 1.5%, above estimates after the first nine months of FY 2018, the budget agency reported.

School Funding, Accessibility Among Themes Driving GOP Primary Contest In House District 67

A former assistant prosecutor, a Powell city member, and a state senator are jostling for the Republican nomination for the 67th House District.

The district encompasses the western half of Delaware County and is currently occupied by term-limited Rep. Andy Brenner (R-Powell).

Among the contenders is Sen. Kris Jordan (R-Ostrander), a term-limited senator who attributed his desire to remain in the Statehouse to his "continued battle to protect our rights and to restrict the growth of government."

"Government's gotten too big," Sen. Jordan said in an interview. "Under both parties, it does things that steal your freedoms and spends your money and I think individuals and families know how to spend their money better than governments do for them."

But Denise Martin, a former assistant prosecutor, and Brian Lorenz, a member of Powell City Council and a former mayor, are mounting their own efforts for the seat. Both said they'd be a collaborative and open voice for their prospective constituents.

"I really felt we needed a representative down in Columbus who was accessible to the people in Delaware County," Ms. Martin said. "We needed someone who was going to fight for what was important to Delaware. We have school funding issues in Delaware and as a state we face an opioid epidemic and no particular jurisdiction is exempt from that issue."

Added Mr. Lorenz: "I think we need leaders that are willing to listen and engage their constituents and I've got a track record of doing that. I will always listen to someone and I'll give you an answer. You may not like the answer, but being accessible and being on the forefront and exploring issues that are relative to our area and our situation are things I have been working on ever since I ran for my first office."

Ms. Martin, 46, said she's been practicing law for 18 years. In 2009, she took the assistant prosecutor position in Marion County where she primarily worked domestic violence cases.

She left in December to take a court administration position in the Domestic Relations Division of the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas. She said she'd endeavor to build on that criminal justice experience if elected to the chamber.

"My two areas I want to focus on are criminal law and the school funding issue for Delaware," Ms. Martin said. "Those are two incredibly important areas. One of my concerns is I think we've taken some discretion away from judges who are in the best position to impose sentences."

As far as school funding, she said voters in the district believe dollars haven't kept pace with the community's growth. "What I hear a lot of is: Give us fair funding," she said.

Mr. Lorenz, 45, is an urban planner by trade who also lists school funding as a priority. He has four children attending Olentangy Local Schools, and agrees the area has been hard hit by school funding caps.

"We get 29% of what we should be getting," Mr. Lorenz said. "It gets disproportional. The property values continue to increase while the amounts that we get in our district kind of go the other way. In Delaware it's the same way."

He said he also wants to bring money back to Delaware County for infrastructure improvements and, like Sen. Jordan, hopes to lead the charge on downsizing state government.

"We're putting too many politicians in positions where we should let the professionals do their thing," he said. "I'm a big advocate in a smaller government. I'm a big advocate for not expanding Medicaid. Your relationships with your doctor should be between the patient and the caregiver. Take the suits out of those decision making processes."

Sen. Jordan, 41, was first elected in 2008 to represent what was then the 2nd House District. He was the first freshman lawmaker elected to House leadership as assistant minority whip.

He successfully ran for the Senate in 2010 and again in 2014 where he represents the 19th Senate District. He currently chairs the Finance Subcommittee on General Government & Agency Review and is vice chair of the Energy & Natural Resources Committee. He also has seats on the committees of Insurance & Financial Institutions, Public Utilities and Ways & Means.

Prior to his legislative service, he spent six years as a Delaware County commissioner.

"I will be hands down the conservative in the race and I've never been outworked in any race I've ever run for," Sen. Jordan said. "Even when I'm battling some of the political bosses...I've always been successful because I take my message directly to the people."

He cited his role in helping eliminate the estate tax in a prior state budget (HB153, 129th General Assembly) as his greatest legislative achievement. He's also played a large role in efforts to eliminate boards and commissions deemed unnecessary.

"Every budget we've created more boards and commissions so when we're constantly creating them I think there's an even more urgent need to sunset and eliminate a number of these," he said.

Ms. Martin said she's counting on her background to set herself apart in the eyes of voters - particularly in the realm of criminal justice. She also holds the endorsement of the Delaware County Republican Party.

"As a former prosecutor, as a woman, as a mother, I think I'm going to bring a unique perspective to the Statehouse," she said. "I learned how to advocate, how to listen. I'm going to be accountable to the citizens of the district."

As for Mr. Lorenz, the candidate said he's not aligned with any of the "party bosses" in Columbus.

"I've got a great deal of experience," he said. "People just want to make sure their voices are being heard. I'm the candidate that does that."

Mr. Lorenz is a former CrossFit level one trainer and former gym owner. He volunteers as a swim official and used to coach youth football. He and his wife, Sue, have a 15-year-old son and triplet daughters who are age 12.

Ms. Martin has two daughters, the youngest of whom is graduating high school this year. She describes herself as an avid reader with a penchant for World War II-era nonfiction.

Sen. Jordan, meanwhile, described himself jokingly as a "pretty boring guy" who enjoys gardening and Ohio State University football. He has three daughters, ages 4, 3 and 1.

The Republican victor will likely face Democrat Cory Hoffman come November in the heavily right-leaning district.

Subscribers Note: *This story is part of a series focusing on key primary races for Ohio legislative seats. See [Gongwer's Election Page](#) for more information on 2018 contests, including our [Key Races](#).*

Super PAC Launches Pro-Balderson Ad Campaign; NARAL Pro-Choice Backs Cordray; Rand Paul Endorses Taylor

A Super PAC is on the air with an ad supporting Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) in the race to replace former U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi.

The 30-second ad, "Getting It Done," is accompanied by a six figure buy, the group announced in releasing the spot.

"If you want something done, call Troy Balderson. A conservative champion, Troy Balderson's bold leadership helped eliminate Ohio's staggering deficit," the narrator says in the spot. "As state senator Troy Balderson voted to cut taxes by \$5 billion. The result: more money for the middle class."

Defending Main Street President and CEO Sarah Chamberlain in a statement called Sen. Balderson "a man of action and his conservative record shows he is the right choice for Ohio families."

"Voters today want results, not rhetoric, and Balderson has proven he's the man for the job," she said.

Cordray Endorsement: The gubernatorial campaign of Rich Cordray on Thursday scored the endorsement of NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio.

Executive Director Kellie Copeland in a statement called the contest "the most consequential election for reproductive rights in Ohio since *Roe v. Wade* made abortion legal 35 years ago."

"Cordray and Sutton have time and again fought for abortion rights because they trust women to make their own reproductive health care decisions," she said.

Ms. Copeland acknowledged that Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) and Dennis Kucinich in the past received backing from the group and thanked them for their ongoing support for abortion rights.

"Mike DeWine, Bill O'Neill, and Mary Taylor, other candidates for governor, all oppose the right to choose and if elected would pose a serious threat to the reproductive health care of all Ohioans," she said.

Taylor Endorsement: U.S. Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) also weighed in on the gubernatorial race Thursday.

In endorsing Lt. Gov. Taylor, he called her "a constitutional conservative who will protect the rights and liberties of all Ohioans."

"She is unwavering in her principles and is unafraid of challenging establishment politicians beholden to special interests," he said. "Mary and her running mate Nathan Estruth will be the conservative champions and reformers that Ohioans can trust. As Governor of Ohio she will shut down sanctuary cities, end Medicaid expansion, reduce government regulations, end Common Core to restore local control over education, and join me and other Senate conservatives and House Freedom Caucus members in pushing back against over-reach of the federal government."

Agency Briefs: ODOT Plans Busy Construction, Maintenance Season; IG; BWC; SOS

The Department of Transportation expects to spend \$2.35 billion on nearly 1,000 projects during this year's construction season, including efforts to maintain existing roads and bridges.

The department and its contractors plan to repair or replace 5,645 miles of pavement and work on 1,040 bridges, ODOT reported.

"Roads and bridges don't get better over time. That's why 90 cents of every dollar we're investing this year is to take care of what we have," ODOT Director Jerry Wray said in a statement. "We're using better data and more frequent maintenance to address the small issues with our infrastructure before they become big issues."

The agency said is responsible for maintaining more than 43,000 lane miles of roadway and more than 14,000 bridges.

"Our transportation network is Ohio's most valuable man-made asset," Director Wray said. "It gives us the ability to move goods to market, get to work, take our children to school, visit an amusement park or explore the beautiful natural wonders of Ohio."

Inspector General: Randall Meyer reported that an investigation of an ODOT employee found he was running a business selling nutritional supplements during the workday.

Brett Shearer, a transportation technician 3, was found to be selling AdvoCare products during the work day, and a review of his state email account found more than 100 emails related to his secondary employment, according to the report.

Investigators found reasonable cause to believe Mr. Shearer violated ODOT policies requiring employees to report secondary employment and for engaging in activities for personal profit during work hours.

The report was forwarded to the Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney and Columbus City Attorney for consideration.

Workers' Compensation: The BWC announced the hiring of Carolina Thatcher as its first director of inclusion and diversity. She held a similar role with the Department of Job and Family Services.

"Like the rest of society, our employers and injured workers are diverse, and if we are to truly serve our customers well, we must appreciate and understand the particular needs and challenges they bring to their experience with us," BWC Administrator/CEO Sarah Morrison said in a statement. "Given Carolina's track record, I'm confident she will help us succeed in doing that."

At ODJFS, her work included curriculum development, training and serving on multi-agency inclusion and diversity committees.

Secretary of State: Jon Husted reminded voters that April 9 is the deadline to register to vote for the May 8 primary election.

The ballot includes a statewide ballot issue, state and local races and a total of 477 local issues in 83 of Ohio's 88 counties.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Monday, April 9

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 8:30 a.m.

Board of Building Appeals, Training Rm. 1, 6606 Tussing Rd., Reynoldsburg, 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 10

Board of Building Appeals, Training Rm. 1, 6606 Tussing Rd., Reynoldsburg, 8:30 a.m.

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 11

Veterinary Medical Licensing Board, Rm. 1914, 77 S. High St., Columbus, 8:30 a.m.

Real Estate Commission, 22nd Fl., 77 S. High St., Columbus, 9 a.m.

Thursday, April 12

Board of Building Standards, Training Rm. 1, 6606 Tussing Rd., Reynoldsburg, 10 a.m. (The 10 a.m. Certification and Education Committee meeting will be followed at 1 p.m. by the Code Committee meeting)

Friday, April 13

Board of Building Standards, Training Rm. 1, 6606 Tussing Rd., Reynoldsburg, 10 a.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Wednesday, April 18

Ohio House Republican Organizing Committee fundraiser, Buckeye Bourbon House, 36 E. Gay St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (\$5,000, \$2,500, \$1,000 or \$500 to OHROC)

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Tom Gallick, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Daily Activity Planner for Friday, April 6

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

Board of Building Standards, BBS Library, 6606 Tussing Rd., Reynoldsburg, 10 a.m. (Electrical Safety Inspector Advisory Committee)

Event Planner

No events scheduled.

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House Activity for Thursday, April 5, 2018


INTRODUCED


HB 581  **LICENSE PLATE** (Miller, A., Boggs, K.) To create the "West High School Alumni Association" license plate and the "Central High School Alumni Association" license plate. Am. 4501.21 and to enact sections 4503.703 and 4503.704

HB 582  **ROAD NAMING** (Green, D.) To designate the portion of U.S. Route 52 in Clermont County the "Clermont County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway" and the portion of U.S. Route 52 in Brown County the "Brown County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway." Am. 5534.805 and 5534.806

HB 583  **OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING** (Henne, M.) To limit the occupational license and registration requirements and fees that a political subdivision may impose on state-regulated occupations, to establish a waiver exempting certain persons from paying occupational license or registration fees, and to revise the licensing restrictions applicable to individuals convicted of criminal offenses. Am. 101.721, 101.921, 109.57, 109.572, 109.77, 119.12, 121.22, 121.621, 169.16, 169.17, 173.381, 173.391, 306.352, 311.04, 503.44, 503.46, 505.49, 509.01, 511.232, 715.27, 737.052, 737.162, 903.05, 905.503, 907.111, 917.06, 921.23, 926.05, 935.06, 943.03, 943.031, 943.05, 943.09, 956.03, 956.15, 1119.05, 1119.08, 1315.04, 1315.081, 1315.101, 1315.151, 1315.23, 1315.30, 1321.04, 1321.05, 1321.37, 1321.522, 1321.53, 1321.532, 1321.537, 1321.54, 1321.59, 1321.64, 1321.70, 1322.022, 1322.023, 1322.04, 1322.041, 1322.042, 1322.07, 1322.074, 1322.10, 1501.013, 1501.25, 1514.99, 1531.132, 1533.342, 1533.631, 1533.632, 1533.641, 1545.13, 1546.16, 1561.12, 1561.23, 1571.012, 1702.80, 1713.50, 1716.05, 1716.07, 1751.05, 2903.37, 2915.081, 2915.082, 2919.123, 2919.17, 2919.171, 2919.18, 2919.201, 2919.202, 2919.203, 2923.17, 2925.38, 2929.42, 2929.43, 2953.25, 2961.03, 2961.23, 3302.151, 3304.31, 3310.43, 3314.101, 3314.40, 3319.088, 3319.225, 3319.292, 3319.30, 3319.31, 3319.311, 3319.313, 3319.39, 3319.40, 3319.52, 3326.081, 3326.24, 3327.10, 3328.18, 3328.19, 3332.05, 3332.09, 3332.11, 3332.12, 3345.04, 3710.06, 3719.121, 3721.07, 3734.02, 3734.42, 3734.44, 3734.83, 3735.311, 3743.03, 3743.04, 3743.16, 3743.17, 3743.70, 3743.99, 3770.05, 3770.073, 3772.04, 3772.07, 3772.10, 3772.16, 3772.99, 3773.42, 3773.53, 3781.102, 3783.03, 3796.03, 3796.04, 3796.09, 3796.10, 3796.13, 3905.06,

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HB 584  **TAX DEDUCTION (Cera, J., Rogers, J.)** To extend an existing income tax deduction for unsubsidized medical insurance premiums to Medicare premiums. Am. 5747.01

HB 585  **FIREARM LAWS (Henne, M.)** To expand the definition of dangerous ordnance to include armor piercing ammunition and expand the definition of

an automatic firearm to include any device within the federal definition of machine gun; to create additional conditions under which an individual may not possess a firearm or dangerous ordnance and to eliminate the process by which an individual may apply for relief from a weapons disability; to generally prohibit a person from buying, purchasing, obtaining, or furnishing a firearm on behalf of a third party; to provide for the entry of protection orders into the federal NCIC database and LEADS; and to provide for the issuance by a court of an extreme risk protection order. Am. 2151.34, 2903.213, 2903.214, 2919.26, 2923.11, 2923.13, 2923.18, 2923.20, 2923.23, 3113.31, and 3113.99, to enact sections 3113.26, 3113.27, 3113.28, 3113.29, and 3113.30, and to repeal section 2923.14

Gongwer Coverage

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

HB 1


(Enacted)

DATING PROTECTION ORDERS (Sykes, E., Manning, N.) To authorize the issuance of dating violence protection orders with respect to conduct directed at a petitioner alleging dating violence, to provide access to domestic violence shelters for victims of dating violence, and to require the Attorney General's victim's bill of rights pamphlet to include a notice that a petitioner alleging dating violence has the right to petition for a civil protection order.
Signed: April 5, 2018; Effective: In 90 days

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Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Tom Gallick, Staff Writers

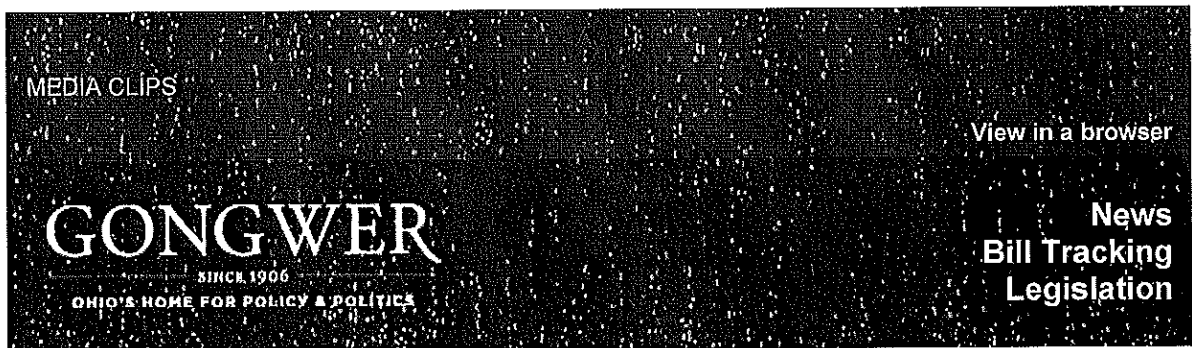
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Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 8:50 AM
To: DL_Gongwer
Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Tuesday, June 13

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NEWS

Senate Republicans' budget proposal boosts funding to fight opioid crisis, saves money through administrative streamlining (Akron Beacon Journal, 6/13/2017)

Ohio agency granted adjustments to no-bid contract process (Associated Press, 6/13/2017)

Ohio board to online charter school: Pay back disputed \$60M (Associated Press, 6/13/2017)

Ohio grants Intralot unbid \$71M lottery contract, extensions (Associated Press, 6/13/2017)

Senate budget closes \$1B gap, adds \$6M for opioid crisis (Associated Press, 6/13/2017)

This Ohio paper endorsed Trump. And now? (Cincinnati Enquirer, 6/13/2017)

Would your school lose or gain money under Senate GOP plan? (Cincinnati Enquirer, 6/13/2017)

Americans for Prosperity targets Sen. Sherrod Brown in new digital ad campaign (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/13/2017)

No more art, music and gym tests just to grade teachers? How Ohio could change testing under new proposal (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/13/2017)

Ohio Senate budget plan seeks deeper cuts: Ohio Politics Roundup (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/13/2017)

President Donald Trump nominates Cleveland lawyer Justin Herdman to be new U.S. attorney (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/13/2017)

= A

State agencies, Medicaid take brunt of \$1 billion budget cut proposed by Senate GOP (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/13/2017)

State superintendent proposes cuts in Ohio's state tests (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/13/2017)

ECOT ordered to repay \$60 million for inflating attendance (Columbus Dispatch, 6/13/2017)

Justices uphold Ohio commercial tax (Columbus Dispatch, 6/13/2017)

Lawmakers OK new state contracting rules requiring competition (Columbus Dispatch, 6/13/2017)

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From: Thomas, AJ
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 11:50 AM
To: Thomas, AJ
Subject: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon
Attachments: Deconstructing Admin State Lunch Invite.pdf

Hello! Had enough of bureaucracy? Tired of all the red tape? Concerned about rogue agencies seemingly operating impervious to oversight? I am, too!

A wise man once said, "There is no such thing as a free lunch," but he was wrong!

On Wednesday May 23rd there will be a panel discussion of HB580 featuring the American Principles Project's Erin Tuttle, Greg Lawson of The Buckeye Institute, and Micah Derry of Americans for Prosperity. It will be moderated by Representative Andy Thompson. There will also be a free lunch provided by the parties in question.

House Bill 580, adds oversight and transparency to Ohio executive agencies' applications for federal grants, in an effort to control the rise of the administrative state. The discussion will include how the bureaucracy of our federal and state governments has grown over time, and how this administrative growth has specifically hurt the State of Ohio through federal grants and mandates. We will discuss how HB580 will help address the problem we have with a rising administrative state, and institute oversight via the executive branch.

WHERE: 31st Fl. North Room

WHEN: Wednesday May 23rd from 11:00-12:15

WHO: All Members and Staff are invited

Please RSVP to AJ Thomas (AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov) by Friday May 18th so we may have a count for lunch.

We hope to see you there!

Andrew M. Thompson

Andy Thompson
State Representative
House District 95



Subj: Deconstructing the Administrative State Panel Discussion and Luncheon

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Andrew M. Thompson

Andy Thompson
State Representative
House District 95



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE



From: Thomas, AJ
Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2018 9:34 AM
To: Thomas, AJ
Subject: RE: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

Make sure to respond by **this Friday 5/18** for a free lunch! See below:

From: Thomas, AJ
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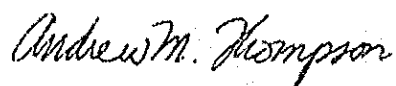
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Andy Thompson

State Representative
House District 95



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE



AMERICANS FOR
PROSPERITY.

From: Thomas, AJ
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 12:32 PM
To: Thomas, AJ
Subject: FW: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

Final chance! Don't miss out on lunch and a great opportunity to see what we are doing to control the rise of the administrative state. Thanks!

AJ THOMAS
Legislative Aide
State Representative Andy Thompson | Ohio's 95th House District
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Office number: (614) 644-8728
AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov

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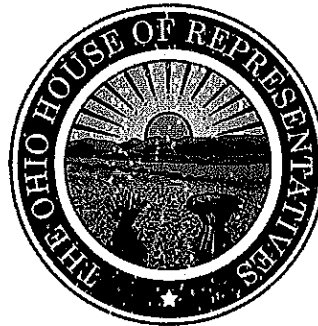
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Andrew M. Thompson

Andy Thompson
State Representative
House District 95



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE



AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY.

From: Thomas, AJ
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 11:20 AM
To: House All
Subject: ALERT- HAPPENING NOW: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

Come on up to the 31st Floor!

From: Thomas, AJ
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A wise man once said, "There is no such thing as a free lunch," but he was wrong!

On Wednesday May 23rd there will be a panel discussion of HB580 featuring the American Principles Project's Erin Tuttle, Greg Lawson of The Buckeye Institute, and Micah Derry of Americans for Prosperity. It will be moderated by Representative Andy Thompson. There will also be a free lunch provided by the parties in question.

House Bill 580, adds oversight and transparency to Ohio executive agencies' applications for federal grants, in an effort to control the rise of the administrative state. The discussion will include how the bureaucracy of our federal and state governments has grown over time, and how this administrative growth has specifically hurt the State of Ohio through federal grants and mandates. We will discuss how HB580 will help address the problem we have with a rising administrative state, and institute oversight via the executive branch.

WHERE: 31st Fl. North Room

WHEN: Wednesday May 23rd from 11:00-12:15

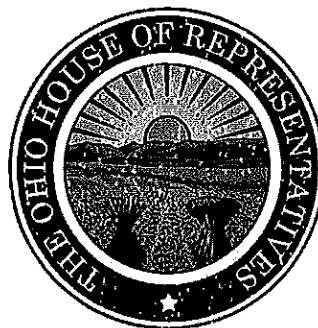
WHO: All Members and Staff are invited

Please RSVP to AJ Thomas (AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov) by Friday May 18th so we may have a count for lunch.

We hope to see you there!

Andrew M. Thompson

Andy Thompson
State Representative
House District 95



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE



AMERICANS FOR
PROSPERITY.